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Southeast Asia Report

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29 October 1984

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BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN 'ATTITUDE' TOWARD INDONESIA--The Indonesian ambassador to Australia, Mr Agus Marpaung, says Australia is being illogical and inconsistent in its relations with Indonesia. Mr Marpaung told the Institute of International Affairs in Canberra that Australia wanted to discuss a mutual border south of East Timor but refused to negotiate and recognize East Timor as a part of Indonesia. He said negotiations on the border has stalemated because of this illogical political position which seemed unlikely to be resolved quickly. Mr Marpaung said that, generally, Indonesia would like consistency in the foreign policy of other countries. But he said Australia like most Western democracies tended to make rapid policy changes because of influence of pressure groups. He said Indonesia had the impression that Australians lack perspectives and were rash and shortsighted. Mr Marpaung said Australia's lack of knowledge of its northern neighbors caused problems of communication and understanding between them. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Oct 64 BK]

SSO: 4200/65

BRIEFS

MIRAGE JET PULLOUT--Australia is to negotiate further with the Malaysian Government over the withdrawal of the Australian Airforce squadron of Mirage fighters near Penang. Commanding officer of the base, Air Commodore (Bradford) told a meeting of government workers in Kuala Lumpur that the talks were scheduled to be held before October next year. He said that most local workers at the base would be sacked when the squadron pulled out. A Malaysian union spokesman told the same meeting that the Australian Defense Department said the squadron would be withdrawn by 1988. The spokesman said local workers would be laid off progressively, starting with 100 next year. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Oct 84 BK]

URANIUM SALES BAN--The chairman of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission, Professor Mark Brennan, has described the Australian ban imposed last month on the sale of uranium to France as little more than a gesture. Professor Brennan said the ban would have no effect whatsoever on French policy concerning nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll in the Pacific. He said it was clear that France would continue its testing program and that the decision had the very strong support of the French people. Professor Brennan said that in that context, he questioned whether there was any point in continuing the ban. Earlier during his speech at Sydney University, Professor Brennan said that although the Atomic Energy Commission had not developed a formal position on uranium sale, it was his firm view that Australia must export uranium. He said to do otherwise would be to frustrate the legitimate aspirations of Australia's trading partners. Professor Brennan said the withholding of Australia's Uranium would be a futile gesture which could lead to the spread rather than the reduction of nuclear weapons. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 13 Oct 84 BK]

WARNING ON SOVIET EXPANSION--Governments of Australia and Papua New Guinea have been called on to come up with plans to prevent Soviet expansion in the Pacific region. Papua New Guinea's opposition leader Mr Oguk said Soviet expansion was deliberate and was moving from the Indian Ocean towards the heart of the Pacific. He claimed that Soviet expansion had reached the region in Vanuatu through foreign aid from the Cuban Government. The opposition leader predicted that serious strategic problems were likely if governments in the region did not wake up to the Soviet and communist expansion. Mr Oguk appealed to the Papua New Guinea Government to allow about 11,000 Irian Jayan refugees to remain in Papua New Guinea. He warned of serious problems developing along that Indonesian-PNG border if the repatriation of the refugees goes ahead as planned. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Oct 84 BK]

WHEAT AGREEMENT--Cairo, 13 October (MENA)--Egypt and Australia signed today an agreement under which Australia will deliver to Egypt 10 million tons of wheat over 5 years at the rate of 2 million tons annually. The agreement, providing for payment over 3 years through credit facilities and with a 1-year period of grace, was signed by Minister of Supply and Home Trade Naji Shatlah for Egypt and Chairman of the Australian Wheat Council Leslie Price for Australia. In a statement made after signing the agreement, Dr Shatlah said Egypt's requirements (?amount) to about 4.2 million tons a year, of which 2 million tons have been secured under today's agreement with Australia, while the United States and Canada provide 1 million tons each. An appendix to the agreement deals with technical cooperation between Egypt and Australia to train Egyptian flour-milling and storage sector workers at specialized institutes in Australia and Europe, supply some storage and milling equipment and delegate an Australian expert team to train Egyptian grain storage workers on latest methods in the field. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 2142 GMT 13 Oct 84 NC]

HEARING ON N-TESTS--The British Government says it is concerned about allegations being made before the Royal Commission into British nuclear tests in Australia in the 1950's and 60's. The British high commissioner in Canberra, Sir John Mason said today that he was worried about claims that Britain had deliberately put servicemen and others at risk and had not taken proper precautions in relation to the nuclear tests. However, Sir John said that Britain had decided not to comment on the claims at this stage although it had been tempted to do so. Sir John renewed the British Government's commitment to cooperate as fully as possible with the inquiry. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 15 Oct 84 BK150800]

CSO: 4200/57

BRIEFS

FOREIGN WORKERS—Bandar Seri Begawan, Thurs--The Brunei Government is taking immediate steps to halt an influx of applications from foreign workers seeking jobs and wealth in the newly-independent Sultanate. The move comes after newspaper advertisements, leaflets and pamphlets were circulated overseas about Brunei's wealth and job opportunities. The reports, said to be exaggerated, are causing diplomatic chaos throughout the Middle East and North Africa. Brunei and British missions overseas and Brunei's Immigration Department are swamped with visa applications from foreign workers. The chaos has reached such a pitch that last week, Brunei's acting immigration controller Julaihi Bin Jahi Abdul Kadir made a television appeal to defuse the situation. [Excerpt] [Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Oct 84 p 7 BK]

CSO: 4200/64

BRIEFS

PRC JOURNALISTS VISIT--The delegation of PRC journalists headed by the editor in chief of RENMIN RIBAO's International Affairs Department, (Yao Wujin), which is visiting Burma under the bilateral cultural exchange program, toured Mandalay, Sagaing's Ywathigyi, Paleik, Meiktila, and Pagan Nyuang-u beginning 11 October and returned to Rangoon today. On 11 October, the PRC journalists met Mandalay Division People's Council Executive Committee [MDPCEC] members, visited the Institute for Development of National Groups in Sagaing's Ywathitgyi, and attended a banquet held by the MDPCEC. On 12 October they toured the gold leaf and ivory handicraft works and the cultural museum in Mandalay, the Patheingyi's Myananda Farmland Project's rice farm, and the Paleik textile mill. On 13 October, they visited the textile mills in Meiktila and later studied the Ananda and Thabenyu pagodas in Pagan Nyuang-u. After touring the Shwezigon Pagoda, the Cooperative Lacquerware Training School, and the Museum in Pagan Nyuang-u this morning, the PRC journalists returned to Rangoon by air this evening. [Text] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Oct 84 BK]

JAPANESE DEVELOPMENT AID--Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning U Aye Ko and Japanese Ambassador to Burma Mr Masao Tsukamoto today exchanged notes on an agreement on a Japanese grant to Burma. Under the terms of the agreement, the Japanese Government will extend a grant of 4,690 million yen or 162 million kyat to the government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma during the 1984-85 fiscal year. Of the grant, 2,500 million yen or 86 million kyat will be used to purchase fertilizer, agricultural chemicals, machinery, and equipment for the paddy development plan and 2,190 yen or 76 million kyat will be used to purchase equipment necessary for the vegetable and fruit research and production project. [Summary] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Sep 84 BK]

WAUG KHA KAREN BASE ATTACK--Mae Sot--Burmese forces poised to attack the Karen stronghold at Wang Kha have been boosted with more troops and two armoured cars. Intelligence sources said 300 reinforcements accompanied by 600 porters were sent from Kawkaeik District to Ban Me Paeb, about 9 km west of Wang Kha. Already in position at the forward base are about 400 troops from the 75th, 77th and 81st Rapid Deployment Battalions of the 66th Division, said the sources. Also sent in were armoured cars and bulldozers. Rangoon's initial plan to attack the rebel stronghold last Tuesday was called off because of heavy rain and Karen counterattacks. Meanwhile, about 120 rebels from the 101st Special Force Battalion reinforced by about 300 from the 20th Battalion left Wang Kha last month to prepare defensive positions. About 90 Karens were sent to the road from Kawkaeik to Ban Me Paeb to ambush the supply route and destroy bridges to delay the Burmese advance. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Oct 84 p 1]

CSO: 4200/73

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION DESCRIBES YUGOSLAVIA VISIT

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 27 Sep 84

[Text] Belgrade, Sept. 26 (ANTARA)--Yugoslavia has expressed its wish to purchase goods from Indonesia and offered mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields.

The wishes were conveyed to an Indonesian parliamentary delegation led by House Vice Speaker Amir Murtono during a visit to Yugoslavia September 16-21.

As political problems were practically non-existent between the two countries, the talks and discussions between the Indonesian delegation and Yugoslav MPs and government authorities mainly concerned cooperation in the economic field and trade.

Amir Murtono has explained the Indonesian government policy for boosting non-oil exports to East European countries, Yugoslavia in particular.

He also referred to Indonesia's need for capital and technology for support of its national development.

The Yugoslav officials, meanwhile, briefed the Indonesian MPs on the socialist country's economic condition which has started to improve, and on their long-term economic policy currently underway.

As guests of their Yugoslav counterparts, the Indonesian MPs were also observing the economic progress reached by Yugoslavia.

They were also given the opportunity to visit the small-scale industrial and agricultural undertakings at Osijek and the steel plant building locomotives, power generators and electrical installations at Zagreb.

From what they have seen during the visit, the Indonesian MPs drew the conclusion that Yugoslavia was technologically much more advanced than Indonesia.

The Speaker of the Parliament of the Socialist Republic of Croatia, Ivo Latin, mentioned the possibility of a cooperation with Indonesia in building construction, shipping, oil and the chemical industry.

"Borba", a local newspaper, said in its editorial recently that the trade between the two countries in the past 10 years was quite low.

According to the Indonesian embassy in Belgrade, the trade balance between the two countries in the last four years was dramatically fluctuating.

Indonesia's 1980 exports to Yugoslavia were estimated at US\$ 25.6 million, and imports reached US\$ 30 million. In 1981, Indonesian exports were worth US\$ 22.7 million, and imports US\$ 36.3 million.

In 1982, Indonesian exports to the socialist country reached only US\$ 13.97 million, and imports US\$ 4.49 million.

In 1983, Indonesian exports increased to US\$ 15.9 million, and imports to US\$ 5.54 million.

Up to March 1984, Indonesian exports to Yugoslavia stood at US\$ 3.57 million, and imports at US\$ 2.05 million.

No Statement

The current visit, a reciprocation in nature, went smoothly, although no statement was issued.

From the political deliberations between the two sides, the Indonesian delegation noted that Yugoslavia highly appreciated Indonesia as founder of the non-aligned movement, and wished that the movement be put into practice in a consistent way in the solution of international political problems, particularly by the non-aligned member countries themselves.

The seven-man Indonesian parliamentary delegation later proceeded to Poland for a six-day visit at the invitation of the Polish Parliament.

CSO: 4200/46

REACTION TO TANJUNG PRIOK RIOT

PPP Expresses Regret

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 15 (ANTARA)—PPP (Development Unity Party) executive board has expressed its deep regret at the event which occurred in the Tanjung Priok area recently, causing the loss of human lives and material losses, which could have been prevented.

In a statement, signed by its general chairman Dr. H.J. Naro and secretary general Drs. Mardinsyah, issued Friday, the PPP executive board declared that it had fully entrusted the handling of the event to the Indonesian government with the conviction that every infringement of the law should be settled through legal channels, taking into consideration the Republic of Indonesia is a constitutional state.

The PPP board further appealed to all layers of the population to be aware of provocations and to abide by existing laws of the country and to refrain from taking the law into their own hand.

The PPP board also expressed its deepest sorrow for the accident.

To the members of the PPP, the board appealed to enhance their conscientiousness and not be provoked by any kind of issues which could harm national solidarity.

Golkar, PDI on Riot

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 14 (ANTARA)—Secretary General of the Golongan Karya (Golkar) political organization Ir.Sarwono Kusumaatmadja has called on the public to step up alertness and not to respond to agitations by irresponsible groups.

Ir.Sarwono issued the call through the press Friday after the occurrence of a bloody riot at Tanjung Priok, Jakarta, Wednesday night.

He called on the public to avoid being influenced by agitations because the agitations would only raise hate and sufferings. The aims of these agitations, he warned, are not open and clear.

He also advised the people to immediately report them to the proper authority if similar incidents such as the one at Tanjung Priok take place anywhere in the country.

Ir.Sarwono commended the act which Armed Forces Commander L.B.Moerdani had taken. General Moerdani had immediately faced the press and appeared on television Thursday to give a report on the sad event at Tanjung Priok.

"Gen. Moerdani had demonstrated a mature attitude and given the necessary report", Ir.Sarwono said.

"No" to Wild, Violent Actions

The national executive board of the PDI (Indonesian Democratic Party) has also reacted with the issuance of an instruction to all its members in Indonesia calling them to shy away from wild and violent actions and irresponsible agitations.

The instruction was issued by Drs. Jusuf Merukh, the secretary general of the party, Friday.

In connection with the Tanjung Priok riot which had brought losses to life and property, the PDI according to Drs. Jusuf called on the people to use constitutional channels in accordance with existing laws whenever they have strong opinions needing to be expressed.

The PDI, he said, also urged the security authority in the country to investigate into the causes of the Tanjung Priok incident thoroughly.

The party also wished to make known its appreciation for the firmness of the security apparatus in overcoming the riot.

Ulama Council Press Release

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 16 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 16 (ANTARA)--The Indonesian Ulamas Council (MUI) has stated its concern over the "Tanjung Priok" incident which occurred Wednesday night and caused the death of several people and material loss.

It was mentioned in a press release signed by MUI Chairman KHM Syukri Ghozali and issued by the council on Saturday. The council condoled with those losing their families in the riot.

MUI stated the hope that all sides would refrain from taking steps that could worsen the situation so as to avoid such other incidents.

The council called on all sides to create understanding among them to smoothen the solution of problems that constitutes the source of such an incident.

The council called on all Moslems to step up Uchuwah Islamiyah (Islamic Brotherhood) and to avoid steps as well as behaviour that could damage the image of Moslems in the maintenance of national unity and integrity.

CSO: 4200/44

JAKARTA DISCUSSES UN ACCEPTANCE OF CGDK

BK141118 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 Oct 84

[Commentary: "Kampuchea's UN Seat"]

[Text] By the acceptance of the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations by UN Committee IX last Thursday, it is obvious that the member countries of the world body and the Third World continue to recognize the government led by Prince Sihanouk as Kampuchea's legitimate government. Kampuchea has had twin governments since Vietnam's invading troops seized Phnom Penh in January 1979. The United Nations, however, recognizes the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, which has been expanded into a coalition government under the leadership of Sihanouk.

At the nonaligned summit in Havana at the end of 1979, Cuba succeeded in vacating Kampuchea's seat but failed to seat representatives of the Phnom Penh government set up following the Vietnamese invasion. Efforts to replace representatives of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea with those of the Phnom Penh government are made by Cuba at the UN General Assembly in cooperation with the USSR. These efforts, however, have failed because the UN Committee IX decided to confirm the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea [passage indistinct] because it would imply that the world body legitimized the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea that is obviously contrary to the UN Charter itself.

To gain the recognition of the world body, the Phnom Penh government--considered by Vietnam as the PRK Government--must first be recognized by its nearest neighbor Thailand. However, Thailand has been in the vanguard demanding the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and the holding of free general elections to determine whether the Kampuchean people support the Phnom Penh government led by Heng Samrin or the Sihanouk-led CGDK. Bangkok is not expected to accord recognition to the Phnom Penh government because its demands have been rejected by Vietnam.

On his way to New York to attend the annual session of the UN General Assembly, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach hinted that Vietnam needed 10 years to

withdraw all its troops from Kampuchea. Thus, Vietnam still needs 10 years to replace the CGDK with the Phnom Penh government at the United Nations.

Vietnam will probably not expect the success of Cuba's efforts cooperation with the USSR to seat the Phnom Penh government. Indeed, the decision of UN Committee IX to accept the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea was by no means surprising.

CSO: 4213/22

STANCE ON PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S UN ATTACKS SUGGESTED

BK141420 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Oct 84 p 4

[Editorial: "A Reaction to Papua New Guinea Foreign Minister Namaliu's Attack at the UN General Assembly"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja has expressed surprise that Papua New Guinea [PNG] Foreign Minister Namaliu has raised the issue of Irian Jayan refugees at the UN General Assembly. Our initial reaction was not surprise, but rather an affirmation that raising the issue at the world body is a setback to our interests. We once hinted that a sustained refugee problem would be raised by the other party at another forum, including the United Nations.

Indonesian parliamentary circles believe that Foreign Minister Namaliu's move was motivated more by the PNG domestic situation itself rather than by any other reasons. These parliamentarians then suggested that despite the deep regret we have expressed over their UN move, we should still adopt a tolerant attitude in our continued search for a bilateral solution.

We do not fully agree with the first view--that the PNG move was motivated by its domestic situation--because that was not the only reason for the Michael Somare government to raise the issue at the United Nations. The main reason probably lies on the psychology of a small country, which decides when confronted by a big country to seek support from other countries--in this case the United Nations.

The psychological complex of a small country having to face a big neighbor apparently has become a factor hindering good relations between Indonesia and the PNG. If our observation is correct, it means that we should always consider their complex in seeking solutions to the border problem and refugee repatriation.

On the other hand, due to our own background and development situation, we in Indonesia have also developed our own complex, which is an assumption that the PNG is apparently unwilling to face the fact that the Irian Jaya Province is an integral part of the Republic of Indonesia. All problems that may arise will become sensitive if they are related to this fact that

the PNG refuses to accept. It is indeed unfortunate for both parties that the longer the refugee problem remains unsolved, the more serious the complexes suffered by both countries become. At the same time, both countries will reap no benefit from the existing problems remaining unsolved.

The most sensible solution is the one proposed by our parliamentary circles, mentioned earlier, that we adopt a tolerant attitude and continue to seek a genuine resolution, which was in fact nearly reached and remained only to be implemented. We fully agree with the tolerant attitude to be adopted by the government considering the small-country-against-big-country complex suffered by the PNG. A tolerant attitude here actually means an absence of "big brotherism" because it is the "strong neighbor" image that we wish to avoid.

We believe that the Somare government's move to raise the bilateral issue at the UN forum is unwise because such a move will never make things smoother but rather complicate them. In such cases, the United Nations will normally let those concerned solve the problem alone. Viewed objectively, the scope of the Irian Jayan refugee problem has not yet reached a level demanding UN attention. Besides, both parties already intend to resolve the problem which has yielded some progress. What remains is to complete the efforts.

Instead of raising the issue at an international forum, it would have been more useful for all concerned if the Somare government had drawn the attention of the Indonesian president to the matter. In other words, an issue which cannot be resolved at one level of state hierarchy can still be brought to a higher level for a resolution.

Once again we believe that the problem of Irian Jayan refugees must be brought back to bilateral negotiations for resolution. It is this bilateral relation that must be strengthened to ensure that future cooperation between the two countries will not be marred by the border or by the ethnic problems of their frontier citizens.

CSO: 4213/22

EAST TIMOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TO BE INTENSIFIED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 17 Sep 84

[Text] Dili, (East Timor), Sept. 17 (ANTARA)--The government is determined to intensify agricultural development in the province of East Timor in the current Fourth Five Year National Development Plan (Repelita IV) in order to lay a foundation for development of agricultural sector in the future.

This was stated by Minister of Agriculture Ir.Achmad Affandi in his written address read out by the Director General for Food Crops, Ir.Suhaedi, during a ceremony installing of the head of the East Timor Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ir.Hadiono, here Saturday.

The minister further said that efforts for the laying a foundation for the development of agricultural sector in the province constituted a challenge to all government apparatuses, particularly those working in agricultural sector.

"But, the program can be successfully implemented if it is well-managed with a high spirit, discipline and dedication of all concerned officials", the minister stated.

On the occasion the minister also expressed the hope that Ir.Hadiono would continue the efforts for the development of agricultural sector for the benefit of the local people.

CSO: 4200/44

ONLY 8 PERCENT OF GNP COMES FROM TAXES

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 18 (ANTARA)--State revenue from taxes in Indonesia today still does not exceed eight percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Director General for Taxes Salamun A.T. said in a television program Monday night.

In fact, he added, taxes collected by the Directorate General of Taxes directly is only four percent of GDP.

He said this was low compared to other countries in the world, particularly the developing countries.

The number of taxpayers in Indonesia is also low compared with those in other countries. Salamun said of Indonesia's population of 150 million only 600,000 (or about 0.4 percent) were paying taxes.

He said: "I could not present data on the numbers of taxpayers in other developing countries. But in the industrial world, in Sweden, for instance, the numbers of taxpayers are high. Of Sweden's eight million population, six million are paying taxes."

Tax Reform

Salamun said the government had taken various measures to reform the taxation system in Indonesia with the aims of, among others, increasing state revenue from taxes by increasing the number of taxpayers.

He said he hoped government income from tax sources would play a more significant role in the future in financing national development.

At present, a greater portion of the fund spent by the government to finance development is obtained from the sales of oil and natural gas. However, as the international market for these two commodities is uncertain, the government has to take steps to increase its receipts from taxes also, according to the director general.

CSO: 4200/44

1985 ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE ESTIMATED AT 4.5 PERCENT

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 17 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 17 (ANTARA)--Indonesia's economic growth rate is estimated to reach 4.5 percent in 1985, making a slight increase compared with the 4.2 percent in 1984, Secretary General of the Finance Ministry, Ely Soengkono, said in his speech at the flag-hoisting ceremony taking place at the front yard of his office Monday.

He said the 1985 economic growth rate would still be low compared with those in the 1979-1981 period averaging 8.01 percent annually. However, it is higher than the rate in the end of the last third Five Year Plan (1983) standing at 2.25 percent.

The estimate is not made at random but based on calculation considering factors supporting the growth, although it can be subject to other influential factors, such as, population growth, technology and production supporting environments.

He also affirmed that the national stability could create a favourable climate to step up and improve development output of the nation.

CSO: 4200/44

JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE WITH THAILAND

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 20 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 20 (ANTARA)--Joint naval exercises between Indonesia and Thailand was opened by Thailand's navy commander Rear Admiral Vichit Vanavikhai at Thailand's navy base of Songkhla Wednesday.

Under the code name "Sea Garuda VB" the exercises involved eight warships, three of Indonesia and five of Thailand.

Led By Col. Han Sajul Panich RTN and Col. Anas Syafel as deputy commander, the two countries' navies are practising tactical maneuvers, air-raids, on-board logistics and others.

So far five similar joint exercises have been conducted by the two countries.

The news was released by the Indonesian navy's public relations office here Wednesday.

CSO: 4200/45

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES ANTI-JAPANESE ATTITUDE

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 5 Sep 84 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

Chairman of the league of Indonesia — Japan MPs, Michio Watanabe, is convinced that the action to show "anti-Japanese" feelings such as that taking place in 1974 will not recur. The same conviction is shared by Takaichi Yoneda, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Jakarta.

Both sides have realised the customs of each other, thus reducing the possibility of misunderstanding. According to Yoneda, after the 1974 incident the Japanese government has also made policy improvements. Companies engaged in capital investments in Indonesia are better directed. Japan has also launched various programs aimed at bringing both nations closer, like the student exchange program between Indonesia and Japan.

The statements of these Japanese officials are indeed true. However, the causes do not only involve the change of attitude on the part of Japan alone. The political society, including students and youths, has changed a lot in Indonesia over the last decade. The tough attitude of confrontation against the government is practically no longer found on the surface. Students and youths are now paying more attention to their studies. The latter are more concerned with getting jobs and making a living. They naturally are still interested in political and social affairs, but they seem to be reluctant to face the risk of too much personal sacrifice. This may also be due to the feeling that they will find it impossible to change a situation in society. What is the use of taking great personal risk?

The "anti-Japanese" sentiments are more apparent in the other countries in East Asia and Southeast Asia. In Korea such feelings are strong enough for reasons of longer historical origin. Strangely, this reaction is least found in Taiwan, once also occupied by Japan. In Southeast Asia the most prominent reaction against Japan can be seen in Thailand, which reflects the annoyance of the business (and government) sector against

their trade balance deficit : Japan exports far bigger quantities than its imports from Thailand. Why is it that Japan refuses to buy more from Thailand ? Such voices against Japan are not heard from the Philippines, because the Filipinos are preoccupied by domestic political affairs. Generally they have the same complaints as those of Thailand.

Malaysia some time ago was highly in favour of the Japanese, and its Prime Minister called on the nation : Look East, and never imitate the West alone. Surprisingly, the same Prime Minister lately criticised Japan in an address at a periodical business meeting between Malaysia and Japan. Japan is considered not so progressive in assisting this developing country.

Singapore sometimes issues strong warnings against Japan, at closed meetings, for instance between the Asean chamber of commerce & industry and Keidanren.

Hence the most lenient attitude towards Japan is shown by Indonesia. Does it mean that Indonesia indeed has less to complain, economically as well as politically, against a big nation with such outstanding presence in the country ?

Yoneda-San may think so, because Indonesia has a big trade surplus against Japan. This is true, but it is only caused by the large quantities of crude oil and natural gas exports. We are in fact very appreciative of Japan as the major buyer of our main commodities.

However, we are now busily engaged in the boosting of non-oil/gas exports. In this case Japan only constitutes an important buyer of our primary commodities, such as tin, copper ore, nickel, aluminium, bauxite, (formerly) logs, rubber, coffee, frozen shrimps, etc. For this we appreciate Japan as well. But when is Japan prepared and willing to open its doors wider for the import of manufactures from the developing countries like Indonesia and the other Asean members ? This is just the question. Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines have longer been irritated by this closed Japanese market to their manufactures because their interests have much longer been involved. Indonesia has only just begun.

As the new minister of trade, Rachmat Saleh has paid his goodwill visit first to Japan before proceeding to the US and Europe. But he and his delegation felt they were more successful in the US. At that time Europe was still gripped by the recession, while the Japanese economy was already vigorous, and its trade surplus was rising.

Japan also tends to accomodate American complaints first, because the US government is tough on negotiation tables, and indeed the US has a lot of trump cards.

Southeast Asia is still less accomodated by Japan. Especially with regard to Indonesia, our complaint now concerns the difficulty of our plywood entering Japan. The rate of import duty is high, almost 20%, while that for American softwood has been reduced. Japan always raises the problem of sizes and types of quality. If this is the case, why don't the Japanese provide technical aid to Indonesian companies?

Lastly, Japan also realises that Indonesia has so far been "sweet" in its attitude. But some of the Japanese are worried, lest there is a strong current below the smooth sea surface, and lest a violent storm may emerge at any time. If not today, may it emerge within a few more years? The styles of political expression may be very different between Bangkok and Jakarta. In Bangkok, what one feels is readily revealed. What about Indonesia?

CSO: 4200/43

BATAN MASTERS URANIUM EXPLORATION, PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 25 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 25 (ANTARA)--The National Atomic Research Board (BATAN) has mastered technology for the exploration and processing of uranium according to Director General of BATAN Ir. Djali Ahimsa.

Speaking in a television program here Monday night, Ahimsa disclosed that BATAN was at present carrying out the exploration and evaluation of uranium deposits all over the country.

Puspitek (Technological Research Centre) in Serpong, West Java, will soon be equipped with facilities to further process uranium into fuel for nuclear power generating stations, he said.

The operation of nuclear fueled power generating stations, Ahimsa continued, will help the country save foreign exchange reserves.

BATAN is planning to begin conducting latest feasibility studies which have been carried out by the board in cooperation with PLN (State Electricity Company) and IRA (Italian Atomic Research Agency), he revealed.

The result of feasibility studies conducted by BATAN in cooperation with PLN and IRA five years ago is considered out-of-date, he explained.

Feasibility studies to be accomplished in 1985 is expected to be completed before 1986 and the result will be submitted to Bakoren (National Energy Coordination Board) at the end of 1985 or in the beginning of 1986.

The result of the 1985 feasibility studies is expected to be useful to the government in the realization of the plan to set up nuclear power generating stations in the middle of the coming decade, according to Ahimsa.

He pointed out that the enhancement of electricity supply was required to support industrialization in Pelita V, Pelita VI and the subsequent Pelita periods, and the setting up of nuclear power plants would support the expansion of power supply.

CS0: 4200/46

CEMENT PRODUCTION, FOREIGN MARKETING DESCRIBED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 25 (ANTARA)--Indonesian cement is not competitive on the international market compared against those produced by other countries because cement production in Indonesia is using coal to generate energy, said the Director General of Basic Chemical Industry Sidharta Tuesday.

Therefore he hoped cement plants in Indonesia in the three years ahead must be able to use coal as its source of energy to lower cost.

Indonesia has a great potential of coal resources, such as in Obilin and Bukit Asam, for use in the cement industry. However he acknowledged that the shift of energy source from oil fuel to coal will need a big investment including other supporting means, such as, sea and air transportation, and port facilities.

Touching on Indonesia's export of cement, he said that it was conducted because there was a surplus of cement production after having been put aside for domestic consumption. In this respect, the domestic market receives priority, he added.

In 1984, the surplus of production reaches approximately 800,000 to one million tons which are planned to be exported. The present production of cement in Indonesia stands at 10.7 million tons per year.

He also pointed out that currently there is a price war on the international market. Due to this unhealthy condition, Indonesia has to cut its price of cement to US\$ 30 to 40 per ton which are much lower than those of for domestic consumption standing at around US\$ 80 per ton.

Even the condition of cement's price on the domestic market lately is very sluggish. "Prices of cement on the markets throughout Indonesia are generally lower than the set benchmark", he commented.

CSO: 4200/46

JAPAN TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 24 (ANTARA)--Japan will assist Indonesia in developing its human resources, visiting Japanese Labour Minister Misoji Sakamoto stressed when he was received by President Soeharto at Bina Graha Monday.

The minister said the two countries would later determine the forms of cooperation needed.

Sakamoto, who is on a visit here until Tuesday, said his government had assisted Indonesia in upgrading the skill of its work force, particularly health and agricultural officers.

Japan is also helping Indonesia to build vocational centres in Bekasi, West Java. Work started in February this year and is scheduled for completion in March 1985.

President Soeharto, according to the Japanese minister, has been requested to inaugurate the Rp. 16 billion project.

President Soeharto, at the meeting, said that Japan's defeat in World War II was compensated for by its economic development victory today.

Indonesia would like to follow Japan's step in dealing with its economy, the President said.

Sakamoto arrived in Indonesia Saturday. He will visit the Borobudur and Prambanan temples in Central Java. He is currently on a tour of Asean member countries.

CSO: 4200/46

WAY TO NU CONGRESS TERMED CLEAR

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 23 (ANTARA)--The way to a Nahdlatul Ulama congress in the near future is now clear as all the leaders of the influential Islamic organization has already overcome their differences and is now united.

This was said by the secretary general of the executive board of the NU when he talked to reporters at Parliament building Saturday.

With the emerging unity of the NU leaders, there is no longer any "problem" within the body of the religious organization, NU secretary general Munasir said.

Technically, there is no longer any hurdle toward the staging of the congress, Munasir repeated.

He added however that no decision had as yet been made on when and where the congress would take place.

He indicated that the big Islamic boarding school in Probolinggo, East Java, the Probolinggo Pesantren, led by the ulema K.H.Hasjim had made known its interest in hosting the event.

Munasir told the reporters: "The sooner the congress the better because there is no longer any hurdle."

Unity among NU leaders was forged in their meeting held in Sepanjang, Surabaya, a week ago, according to Munasir.

Friday night, after the Sepanjang unification, the leaders of the organization made up of K.H. As'ad Syamsul Arifin, K.H.Idham Chalid, K.H.Ali Maksum, K.H.Masykur, K.H.Ali Yahfi, K.H.Sjaifuddin Zuhri and H.Abdurachman Wahid were received in audience by the head of state, President Soeharto, at his residence at Jalan Cendana.

In the one-hour audience, President Soeharto expressed his satisfaction over the result of the NU meeting in Surabaya.

CSO: 4200/46

REPHASING OF CONSTRUCTION OF SUGAR MILLS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Aug 84 p 6

[Text]

In a bid to increase the number of sugar factories, the Government plans to construct 18 new sugar mills.

Construction work on the sugar mills will be conducted in three phases. However six new factories slated to be constructed in the second stage have been subjected to rephasing while the six others constructed in the first phase are expected to complete end this year or early next year at the latest.

Areas outside Java is and have been given priority as location for the new sugar mills. The sugar factories constructed in the first phase are, among other things, the Sei Semayang II in North Sumatra, the Cinta Manis in South Sumatra, the Ketapang in Lampung and the Subang in West Java.

So far there have been 54 sugar factories throughout the country being managed by the PNP/PTP Gula government plantation company.

Locations of the sugar mills spread in such areas as West Java, Central Java and East Java.

There are also sugar factories owned by private circles such as these of the Pakis Baru and Trangkil in Pati and the Nadukismo in Yogyakarta.

SINGAPORE SEEKS APPROVAL TO OPERATE OLD SHIPS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 5 Sep 84 p 7

[Text]

The shipment of goods between Indonesia and Singapore is still dominant in the transport of commodities between Indonesia and other countries. For Singapore, the import of Indonesian commodities is the biggest compared with the import of goods from other countries; therefore, shipping companies serving the Indonesia-Singapore route face no problem in seeking cargoes for their vessels.

At the recent annual meeting between INSA and SEA in Singapore recently, SSA (Singapore) proposed that the regulation of the Indonesian Government to ban the operation of old vessels should exclude those serving the Indonesia-Singapore route. INSA (Indonesian Shipowners Association) did not give a decision at the meeting. It is up to government, according to INSA.

The meeting had not been able to make uniform the tariff of shipment for the route between Indonesia and Singapore.

CSO: 4200/43

SUBROTO CITES DROP IN DOMESTIC OIL DEMAND

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 5 Sep 84 p 5

[Text]

Minister of Mines & Energy Subroto told the press after he met President Soeharto at Bina Graha here recently that the growth in the demand for oil which stood at an average of 10% a year in Pelita III (1979/80-1983/84) sharply dropped this year. This means that the Indonesian people have been aware of the need to economize on the use of energy, he said.

Energy audit in government as well as private institutions/agencies goes ahead, and training courses for officers who will carry out energy audit are now underway, he pointed out. He expressed the hope that private companies would appoint energy officers to control the use of energy.

Concerning the new tax policy launched by the government, the minister said it would not affect the operation of oil contractor companies in Indonesia. In this connection, he pointed out that investment for oil exploration in Indonesia was still running as usual.

CSO: 4200/43

NU LEADERS HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS ON TIES WITH PPP

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 25 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Muslim Scholars Association (NU) must re-examine "the direction the NU wants to take" and this condition is not affected by whether or not the United Development Party (PPP) has held a congress. There is a need for introspection concerning the necessity of maintaining a dualistic sociopolitical and socioreligious orientation. And if it is felt that it is necessary to keep the NU's socioreligious orientation separate from practical political activities, then what will the NU use as a vehicle for its political aspirations? Careful thought must be given to the type of mechanism that is needed.

These comments were made by Abdurrahman Wahid, the first secretary of the NU executive committee, in response to questions from a KOMPAS reporter at the offices of the executive committee on Friday [24 August]. He would not comment on the results of the recent First PPP Congress except to say, "The NU was definitely damaged, was totally defeated by Muslimin Indonesia. Just look at the 12 to 23 ratio."

He said that he would refrain from commenting on the PPP congress because he did not have all the facts and data on what occurred during the congress. He explained that one must have time before commenting because comments are evaluations, and that the required facts and data still have to be collected and studied. "For example, there was a report that Kyai As'ad submitted a list containing the names of five NU members who were recommended for positions on the PPP executive committee, but when the report was checked out it was found that this did not happen," he said. Kyai H.R. As'ad Syamsul Arifin is a charismatic ulama who is connected with the canon law council of the NU but does not desire a formal position in the NU executive structure. He is the head of the Sukorejo Salafiyah Syafi'yah Islamic School in Situbondo, East Java. The National Conference of NU Ulama was held at the school on 18-23 December 1983.

Internal Affair

Abdurrahman Wahid described the PPP congress as an internal affair of the party. He said that when NU members hold positions in the PPP executive structure they do so by virtue of the fact that they are PPP members. The NU executive committee does not play this game and so has not sent anyone to them

from the committee; although if "deception" is involved, then that is another matter. "In any case, they are NU people whether they do or do not sit on the PPP central executive committee. Consequently, the situation must be re-examined and criteria established. The NU executive committee has not yet held a meeting for this purpose," he said.

Abdurrahman said that he has long desired that the NU and PPP executive memberships be kept separate and that he has never made any secret of his feelings on this matter. There are many in the NU who do not agree and that is their right, he said, adding that "I think that ultimately this matter will be addressed in the law on social organizations." He said that if there is no separation between persons who hold positions in socioreligious and sociocultural organizations and those who hold positions in sociopolitical organizations, then there will be no specialization.

The National Conference of NU Ulama at Situbondo approved a number of important resolutions. One of these resolutions calls for "the NU's return to the 1926 initiatives" and another prohibits NU executives from serving as PPP executives. The most important resolution passed by the conference confirms that the Pancasila is the sole foundation of the NU. All of these resolutions are expected to be upheld by the NU Congress. The congress is scheduled to be held as soon as the law on social organizations is promulgated.

Voice of A Young Leader

Meanwhile, Agus Miftach S.A., a young NU leader, stated in a press release issued on Friday that all NU members, and particularly the NU's young generation, must bear in mind the bitter experience recently suffered by the NU. He said that it is clear that separatism is the same thing as suicide, or that it can at least be compared to cannibalizing one's self. "The most recent experience we have undergone is indicative of the tragic consequences of separatism. We are becoming troublemakers," he said.

He said there is no need in trying to find who was right and who was wrong in the bitter event experienced by the NU, for it is more important for religion, the religious community, the nation and the state that NU members exercise good judgement and sincerity in anticipating situations.

Agus Miftach is 29 and resides in Ungaran, Central Java. He startled the political community, particularly the PPP, late in 1980, when he was 25, by staging a coup against H.J. Naro, the general chairman of the PPP central executive committee. Even earlier, as head of the Ungaran branch executive committee of the PPP, he announced that he would not recognize the leadership of Karnani, the chairman of the Central Java regional executive committee of the PPP.

According to Agus Miftach, the NU is the largest Islamic organization both in Indonesia and in Southeast Asia. "It is a matter of pride that the NU has a sound traditional foundation. This is the NU's basic capital and it enables the organization to stand firm," he said. But he also warned that the NU cannot play a greater role in the dynamics of current development on the basis of this traditional foundation alone.

NU's Urgent Concern

He said that development is an objective of Islam and certainly an objective of the NU. But development involves more than wants and wishes. Development involves facts, and without facts there will be no development. Development is a manifestation of our joint performance of our duties to God and is a virtuous activity.

He said that the NU has the great responsibility of complementing national development, particularly its spiritual aspects, since the NU, with its richly religious cultural assets, is the dominant factor in this sphere. Even so, the material aspects of development, considered within the context of the correlation of faith and facts, also must lie within the competency of the NU. And in the present situation it is this that must become the urgent concern of the NU, and particularly of the young people who will continue the struggle of the Sunni community.

"Viewed in this context, separatism is extremely unpopular and must be done away with. In order to do this we must abandon the central issue of leaders. Our central issue must be the principles and objectives of struggle," he said.

5458

CSO: 4213/8

CATHOLIC LEADERS COMMENT ON CONDITIONS IN EAST TIMOR

Win Hearts of People

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 23 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Bishop Carlos Filipe X. Belo, the head of the Catholic Church in East Timor, says that the general opinion in East Timor at the present time is that self-determination for the former Portuguese colony would be difficult to achieve. He also says that the people of East Timor want to live a peaceful life based on reality, and that in this case reality is development for the future.

Five Jakarta reporters who are visiting East Timor met with the bishop last Monday [20 August] at Wailili village, 9 km south of Baucau. Bishop Belo told the reporters that it was wrong for the terrorists--who call themselves Fretilin--to burn the houses and steal the property of the people. "The people do not approve of these activities," he declared. He also said that these activities are a tactic used by the terrorists to provoke the government by creating unrest among the people. He said that the terrorists burn houses along with all their contents and cornfields too, and that they also steal the property of the people.

It should be noted that recently the terrorists have been burning villages and taking the property of people who live in rural areas. Engr Mario Viegas Carascalao, the governor of East Timor, says that the villages that are targeted for burning are the good villages. When Bishop Belo was asked if he had denounced their activities to the terrorists themselves, he said that he had not yet had the opportunity to do so. "However everyone knows about it, and these activities are wrong," he added.

Bishop Belo met with the reporters after administering the Sacrament and conducting mass under a large banyan tree in a field in Wailili village. The services were attended by more than 1,000 people. The bishop has been touring villages in East Timor during the past week to conduct services and meet the parishioners. He said that he is happy that the people of East Timor are now very close to the church. "They trust the church because they feel it can give them protection," he said.

Bishop Belo, who is only 36, is a native of East Timor, having been born in Baucau. In May of last year the Vatican appointed him to the highest position in the Catholic Church in East Timor. He replaced Bishop Martinho da Costa Lopez, who was recalled to Portugal. Although the new bishop did not return to East Timor until 1981, after completing his studies in Lisbon and at the Vatican in Rome, it appears that he has won a place in the hearts of the Catholic community in this 27th province of the Republic of Indonesia. This is because, unlike his predecessor, he goes to the villages to meet directly with the people.

Although Bishop Belo was not involved in the tumultuous events that occurred in this former Portuguese colony during the 1970s, having left East Timor to attend a seminary in Macao before the decade began, he does feel that much social progress has taken place since integration with Indonesia in 1976. He said that the government is providing the people with many facilities by building roads, bridges, schools and hospitals, but he also feels that a greater effort should be made to ensure that the people really feel that these development projects are being undertaken on their behalf. This is because there is more to development than its material aspects, for it must also give the people peace of mind. He feels that the social and economic life of the villagers has improved, but he noted that the conditions in some villages are not too good as a result of the security disturbances mentioned above.

In response to a question about the state of security, Bishop Belo said that security was generally satisfactory except for a few villages in the interior. The important thing is the approaches that are used and the attention that is given to the people to make sure they are contented. "The government must win the hearts of the people," he said.

Several articles appearing in the foreign press last month give the impression that Bishop Belo has made statements criticizing the Indonesian government's implementation of policy in East Timor. When asked about these reports the bishop replied that much of what he had said was misinterpreted by the reporter who interviewed him and consequently he had been misunderstood. He also said that members of the foreign media often attribute comments to him in their written and broadcast reports. "They say that I said this or said that when I never said anything of the kind," he added. Noting that he had been quoted out of context on several subjects following an interview with an Australian journalist, he said that he did not understand these reporters.

Bishop Belo also said that he continues to consult frequently with the government, including both Governor Mario Carascalao and local military officials, and that he is prepared to join with the regional government in creating better conditions in East Timor if he is given the opportunity to do so.

Church Aid

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Monsignor Leo Soekoto, S.J., the secretary of the Indonesian High Council of Church Rectors (MAWI/Majelis Agung Waligereja Indonesia), feels that the statements made by Monsignor Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, the apostolic administrator for East Timor, as published in the press last week, have value. In response to a reporter's questions at the monsignor's office in Jakarta on Monday [27 August], he said that Monsignor Belo's desire for peace of mind, well-being and development in his area should be welcomed and that this was why MAWI, despite its limitations, has always tried to assist the people of East Timor.

He said that the support provided by MAWI was of an ecclesiastical nature and took the form of prayers, materiel and manpower. This assistance is provided because the Church is one and its dioceses throughout the world are members of one body and must be able to cooperate when necessary, especially with neighboring dioceses that may be experiencing difficulties.

Some of MAWI's aid to East Timor provides for the education and development of children and youths through the reactivation of schools. Orphans, widows and young men and women also are assisted by providing them with training in skills which they can use to support themselves in the future. MAWI also supplies medical needs and services, tries to provide sources of livelihood for the people, and engages in other activities. MAWI is assisting 79 schools in East Timor. These include 1 kindergarten, 64 primary schools, 11 lower secondary schools, 1 technical secondary school, 1 upper secondary school, 1 teacher training school and 1 Catholic teacher-training school that have a total enrollment of 19,000 students.

Monsignor Leo Soekoto pointed out that the provision of this aid is intended to contribute to peace of mind, well-being and development and that it has no political connotations whatever, since the Church is apolitical. Neither is the aid given to influence political status. "The matter of whether improved peace of mind and well-being will facilitate the integration of East Timor is left to others," he added.

Reports from Abroad

He contested reports from abroad which give the impression that the government is placing obstacles in the way of MAWI's aid to East Timor. "MAWI has never felt that the government is placing obstacles in its way. On the contrary, they help us get there. We feel that we have always had very good cooperation with the government," he said.

He pointed out that MAWI's operating procedures are a strong point because funds from churches in other countries can be channeled into East Timor through the organization. "So we have international contacts that have no political aspects, and this is an independent source of strength," he said.

Monsignor Belo had noted that his words are frequently misinterpreted or distorted by foreign parties who are unfriendly to Indonesia. Monsignor Soekoto

said that he too has been "taken advantage of" in this way. Citing a letter sent by MAWI to Monsignor Belo and the clergy in East Timor, he said that a sentence in the letter was intentionally translated in a negative sense that was inconsistent with the context.

Monsignor Soekoto was asked about the meaning of the words "victims of cruel oppression" which appeared in a "translation" of the MAWI letter which was circulated abroad. He said that the original sentence actually read: "Therefore, it is clear that we should not and cannot be indifferent to all events, particularly when the happiness and misery of human beings who become involved in and are beset by critical events are decisively affected."

According to Monsignor Soekoto, the words "critical events" (peristiwa gawat) apparently were deliberately translated as "cruel oppression" even though this was not the intended meaning.

Progressing Smoothly

When Monsignor Soekoto was asked why the Dili diocese has not yet been included in MAWI, he explained that the grouping of churches in a given area must be done with the permission and approval of the highest authority, that is, the pope. The pope cannot just issue an instruction that the diocese be joined with others because of the principle that the leadership of the Church does not have the right to determine the political status of Catholics, not even if the entire population of an area is Catholic. International and other developments that have a bearing on the matter must be taken into account, and the problem of East Timor has not yet been settled in the United Nations.

Monsignor Soekoto feels that cooperation with Dili is progressing smoothly, and Monsignor Belo has expressed the same view. Indonesian priests and seminarians are beginning to be assigned to East Timor, and seminarians from East Timor now go to Flores and Jakarta to continue their higher education instead of to Macao and Portugal. "This is consistent with the process of Indonesianization," Monsignor Soekoto said.

5458

CSO: 4213/8

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION VISITS TAIWAN

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] The main target of Indonesia's development program is to increase the income of farmers, as this will accelerate the rate of economic growth and provide a foundation for industrialization. Consequently, a continuing effort must be made to create a healthy system of trade, a system that actually benefits the farmer.

These comments were made by Sukamdani Sahid Gitosardjono, the general chairman of Kadin Indonesia (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry), on Monday [20 August] when a KOMPAS reporter asked him about the impressions he received when he led a Kadin mission to Taiwan last week.

"Indonesia can study the system of economic growth in Taiwan. The agricultural sector originally was the dominant sector in that country, but there has been a gradual change and now only 27 percent of the population are engaged in agriculture," he said.

He said that various types of cooperatives have been established to increase the income of the farmers there and that these cooperatives have not been established from above but by the farmers themselves on their own initiative. The farmers are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities and as a result have a certain raw strength and the courage to stand up for their rights. And even in parliament the representatives of the farmers have a sufficiently decisive influence.

"And since the farmers do have significant status they are able to make their own decisions about the best method of increasing their income," he added.

The Kadin general chairman said that it would be a good thing if Indonesian farmers had the same level of awareness as Taiwanese farmers, for then they would not be easily manipulated by merchants. It is important that farmers be educated to realize their need for cooperatives, and that they should not rely on allocations from above.

Noting that the farm population in Indonesia accounts for about 70 percent of the entire population, he said that if farmers achieve the anticipated rate

of progress they will then constitute a very significant force and that the move toward industrialization will be supported by a balanced agricultural structure.

"The course of Indonesia's development begins with the development of the agricultural sector and this clearly is the right course. However, apparently some disorientation frequently occurs in following this course and this is why the income of farmers has not yet reached the anticipated level," he said.

Technological Aid

With regard to the results of Kadin's mission to Taiwan, the Kadin general chairman said that the plan for Taiwan to provide technological aid for rural industries was an attractive form of cooperation. This type of aid already has been given to Malaysia and has been successful. He said that written proposals regarding this type of aid will be submitted and that these proposals will be compared with Taiwan's own proposals. "The system followed in Malaysia may not be suitable for Indonesia and therefore Kadin will also submit its proposals," he added.

Taiwan also has agreed to assist with the technological development of the agrobusiness sector, particularly in the area of garden crops. The emphasis here will be on finding improved ways of planting fruits and vegetables.

There are research centers in Taiwan which the agricultural sector can rely on, and Indonesia can also benefit from the research done at these centers. A number of tropical crops already are being studied in Taiwan.

Taiwan also has experience in the fisheries sector--particularly shrimp, fish and eels--and has offered Kadin Indonesia technological aid in this area, while Kadin Indonesia has offered technological aid in the oil and natural gas sector.

The Kadin Indonesia mission was received by the Chamber National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC), which is the Kadin of Taiwan. An agreement on cooperation was signed by the chambers of commerce of the two countries during the visit.

There also will be cooperation in the trade sector. For example, Taiwan's experience in and routes for exporting to the United States and Europe can be utilized by Indonesia. The Taiwan chamber of commerce also is prepared to raise its investment in Indonesia. At the present time investments in Indonesia from Taiwan usually are made through Hongkong and are recorded as investments from Hongkong.

5458

CSO: 4213/8

EAST JAVA ACCOUNTS FOR 37 PERCENT OF TRANSMIGRANTS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Aug 84 p 9

[Text]

The East Java administration had up to the end of Pelita III (1983/84) resettled 196,815 families from the province to various transmigration centres outside Java, or about 37 percent of the realisation of the national transmigration program that has involved 527,000 families.

The sending of transmigrants from East Java to resettlement centres outside Java in Pelita IV (1984/85 - 1988/89) is projected to cover 190,000 families, about 25 percent of the national target of 750,000 for the same period.

In the realisation of the transmigration program, the East Java administration gives priority to those living in critical areas, such as areas threatened and stricken by land slide on the slope of Mt Semeru, areas hit or threatened by routine floods and over populated areas.

According to the vice governor of East Java, the province has a population of about 30.5 million at present. The population growth rate in the province was about 1.49 percent in Pelita III, or an average increase of about 500,000 a year in the 1979/80 - 1983/84 period.

DAMAGE TO WATERSHED AFFECTS IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Jakarta SUARA KARYA in Indonesian 21 Aug 84 p 6

[Text] Farmers who work irrigated fields in Southeast Sulawesi are crying for water. The lack of water is forcing them to stop working their fields. Many of the dams built in irrigation projects there are unable to raise the water level.

An Antara correspondent learned of the complaints of the farmers recently when he followed H. Zainal Arifin Sugianto, the deputy governor of Southeast Sulawesi, on a working visit to the area. The visit lasted 1 week and was made during the 4th week of last month.

Deputy Governor Sugianto toured the districts of Kendari, Buton and Kolaka. He visited a number of isolated villages in the course of his tour.

A Natural Disaster Relief Team accompanied the deputy governor on his working visit. The visit was conducted to observe at close hand the disruption that has occurred in the social and economic life of rural communities following a protracted rainy season that resulted in floods and landslides and damaged the land transportation system.

Farmers in the area are complaining because of the difficulty in getting water to their irrigated fields. The irrigation dams that have been built in their local areas are unable to function due to the steadily diminishing flow of river water.

The construction of dams in Southeast Sulawesi began in 1969.

Engr H. Alala, the governor of Southeast Sulawesi, dedicated the dams that had been built in the area through the end of the Third 5-Year Plan at a ceremony held in Wonco Satu village, Buton district in April 1984. At that time the Department of Public Works announced that during the last decade 26 dams had been built to service 25 intermediate-, small- and simple-class irrigation systems and that the dams can supply water to 21,055 hectares of irrigated fields.

Antara has obtained a Southeast Sulawesi water resources and irrigation inventory for the 3-month period ending on 31 July 1984. According to the inventory,

as of 1983/84 the Southeast Sulawesi Public Works Service has built 10,935 hectares of new irrigated fields and 46 irrigation systems capable of supplying water to an area of 27,761 hectares.

The inventory also shows that some of the completed dams are not operating because they were built in areas where there are no irrigated fields.

In other locations, there are fields that could be irrigated but they are not being worked because the dams built there are unable to operate. Strangely enough, while the inventory lists dams that are not operating because they have been built in locations where there are no irrigated fields, it also states that there are 250 hectares of irrigated fields at each of these locations.

Damaged Watershed

Engr Djimin, a member of the Water Resources Staff, Public Works Service, was assigned to present a briefing on this subject. He said that studies were conducted before any dams were built in Southeast Sulawesi.

The studies were conducted to determine that the flow of water at a proposed dam site was sufficient to supply water to the irrigated fields in the area, that the area was suitable for growing paddy, that 50 percent of the irrigated fields in the area were held by smallholders, that the farmers were willing and able to work irrigated fields, that roads were available to support farm production, that the status of irrigated land was clear and not in dispute, that the irrigated land in the area was not subject to annual flooding, and that the construction of the dams would support regional interests.

In response to a question from an Antara reporter, Engr Djimin said that at the time the dams were built the Public Works Service knew that the watershed was beginning to deteriorate and that the deterioration was due to the shifting agriculture practised by farmers, which damaged the forest cover in upstream areas.

He said that the Public Works Service always advised the authorities concerned that they should take immediate action to protect the watershed by planting ground cover and through reforestation.

"The fact is that the condition of the watershed in this area is becoming more critical. Irrigation systems are wasted when they are located in watersheds where there is no guarantee of environmental continuity during the dry seasons, since the systems are unable to operate when the flow of water dries up," he said.

5458

CSO: 4213/8

FERTILIZER EXPORTS DETAILED

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Aug 84 p 4

[Text]

PT ASEAN Aceh fertilizer, an ASEAN fertilizer plant operating in Aceh, exported 39,727 tons of urea in the first seven months of this year, only about 24.83 percent of the permitted export volume of 160,000 tons given by the government to the plant for that period.

PT Petro Kimia Gresik, which has been permitted to export 75,800 tons of TSP fertilizer from January to July this year, has up to the present time exported only 14,100 tons of TSP, only about 18.47 percent of the permitted volume.

The export of DAP by PT Petro Kimia Gresik stood at 3,400 tons in the first seven months of this year, only about 7.56 percent of the permitted volume of 45,000 tons for the same period.

Last year, PT ASEAN Aceh Fertilizer exported 28,505 tons of urea, reaching 101.8 percent of the permitted export of 28,000 tons for the same year. PT Petro Kimia Gresik exported 13,200 tons of TSP in 1983, about 60 percent of the permitted volume of 22,000 tons.

The export of DAP by PT Petro Kimia Gresik in 1983 stood at 17,000 tons, around 61.82 percent of the permitted export volume of 27,500 tons for the same year.

PT ASEAN Aceh Fertilizer provides 60 percent of its product for domestic supply and the remaining 40% for exports, in accordance with the supplementary agreement to the basic agreement on the Asian Industrial Project signed on November 25, 1983.

Last year, PT ASEAN Aceh fertilizer provided 30,000 tons out of 58,000 tons of urea it produced for domestic supply and the remaining 28,000 tons for exports, comprising 20,000 tons to Malaysia and 8,000 tons to non-ASEAN countries.

PT ASEAN Aceh Fertilizer will produce 427,500 tons of urea this year, of which 256,500 tons will be set aside for local supply and 171,000 tons for exports. The export of urea by the company this year will comprise 80,000 tons to Malaysia, 30,000 tons to Thailand, 50,000 tons to the Philippines and 11,000 tons to non-ASEAN countries.

CSO: 4200/43

CREATION OF NEW RICE FIELDS IN EAST JAVA

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Aug 84 p 9

[Text]

The creation of new ricefields in the Bondowoso regency, East Java, is projected to cover 173 ha this year and 517 ha in 1985. The expansion of rice fields in the Bondowoso regency will be supported by water supply from the Sampean dam now being built in the regency. When completed, the dam will irrigate around 9,300 ha of ricefields.

Land converted into ricefields previously consisted of barren land, which was planted only with cassava, corn and legumes with very low productivity. But after being reclaimed into paddyfields, the land can produce 5.5 tons of paddy per ha in every harvest season. Thanks to guidance given to the farmers, the productivity of the land is projected to increase to 7.2 tons per ha.

According to the agricultural service of the Bondowoso regency, the creation of new ricefields will be continued. The opening of new ricefields in the regency is expected to reach 1,613 ha in 1988/89. Such activities are also carried out in other regencies in East Java, such as Malang, Kediri, Mojokerto, Banyuwangi and Madiun.

This week, Minister of Public Works Ir. Soejono Sosrodarsono is expected to inaugurate the Sampean dam which will support the creation of new ricefields in the Bondowoso regency.

FOOD PROCUREMENT : The procurement of food in East Java had reached 857,040 tons up to July 30, 1984, of which about 30 percent consisted of rice and 70 percent unhusked rice. The target set by the East Java administration for the 1984/85 planting season is 750,000 tons.

The increase in the procurement of food, exceeding the target already set, is mainly due to the favourable weather and the realisation of the five-point program of rice planting by the farmers.

The procurement of rice handled by the East Java Dolog (logistic Depot) had up to July 30, 1984, reached around 1.1 million tons, of which about 300,000 tons is provided for consumers in the province and the remaining 700,100 tons is provided for supply to other areas that need.

CSO: 4200/43

SAWN TIMBER EXPORTS UP

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 19 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 18 (ANTARA)--The role of Indonesian sawn timber in the world market over the last five years was encouraging moving aside other countries' sawn timber products.

Data from the Ministry of Trade Tuesday showed that in 1978 Indonesia exported 12.94 per cent of the total world sawn timber exports.

The figure rose to 19.30 per cent in 1981 and rose again to 30 per cent in 1982.

The world sawn timber total export in 1983 was 5.7 million cu.m., of which 1.7 cu.m. or 30 per cent came from Indonesia. [sentence as published]

About 66 per cent of the world sawn timber market was filled by Asian countries, 17.5 per cent from Africa and the remaining 16.5 per cent from Latin America.

But over the last few years sawn timber exports from Africa and the Latin America were declining in view of high exploitation costs in those countries.

This will open a good chance for Asia particularly Indonesia to penetrate the world market. But Indonesia is facing strong competition from Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan, though in fact they are only timber exporters not producers.

Indonesia's sawn timber export in 1980 stood at 1,164,630 cu.m. The figure rose to 1,728,450 cu.m. worth US\$259.84 million in 1983.

The exports went to Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, European Economic Community and the Middle East countries.

CSO: 4200/45

POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING MINI-CEMENT PLANT IN IRIAN JAYA EXPLORED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 19 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 19 (ANTARA)--Exploration is afoot to possibly build a mini cement factory in the province of Irian Jaya by taking into account the existing basic material for the industry in the province.

A spokesman of the Department of Industry here said Wednesday that the province has potential resources to build a basic chemical industry.

The construction of a mini cement factory is most possible where its production is to meet the local demand of the building material, the spokesman said.

The national cement production now stood at 10.7 million tons of the total installed capacity of 11.7 million tons a year.

This production capacity would be continually stepped up by the construction of new cement factories and the extension of the existing projects, bringing the amount of installed capacity of cement in the fourth Pelita to 20 million tons a year.

A cement factory is being constructed in Cirebon, West Java with a production capacity of one million tons of cement a year. This plan is expected to be operational at the end of this year.

In Padang, West Sumatera, an extension work of the Indarung cement plant (III B) is underway. Upon completion this new plant unit will be capable of increasing cement production to 2.1 million tons in 1985.

In Madura, East Java, a new cement plant will be built with a production capacity of two million tons a year.

CSO: 4200/45

SUBROTO ON LNG EXPORTS TO TAIWAN, ROK

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 21 Sep 84

[Text] Jakarta, September 21 (ANTARA)--Minister of Mines & Energy Subroto disclosed here Thursday there were early stage of negotiations to explore the possibility of exporting liquefied natural gas to Taiwan.

Subroto told the press after meeting President Soeharto at Bina Graha that Taiwan had asked for LNG supply from Indonesia. He stated further that one more train was required to fulfil the Taiwan's demand for Indonesian LNG.

Indonesia, at present the biggest exporter of LNG in the world with export volume of 15 million tons a year to Japan, has ten trains, comprising six trains in the Arun gas plant and four trains in the Badak gas plant.

Based on a contract already signed with South Korea, Indonesia will begin exporting LNG to that Far-East country in 1986. The contract was signed last year.

Subroto reported to President Soeharto the result of his recent visit to South Korea in the effort to step up cooperation between Indonesia and South Korea in the energy sector, and his recent visit to Australia to attend a petropacific meeting in Melbourne.

He also told newsmen that South Korea was interested in making investments in the exploration of oil in other blocks in Indonesia after successfully striking an oil field in the Madura off-shore through a joint venture between Kodeco, a Korean company, and Pertamina.

South Korea needs additional supply of 1 million tons of LNG from Indonesia every year from 1992 and another 2 million tons a year from 1996. Based on a contract already signed for 20 years, South Korea will, in the first stage, begin importing 2 million of LNG/year from Indonesia at the end of 1986 or in the beginning of 1987.

Apart from that the newly industrialized Asian country has also stated the desire to import coal from Indonesia. In this connection, that country is prepared to adjust its thermal power generating stations to Indonesian coal, according to Subroto.

A South Korean mining company is at present taking part in the exploration of coal deposits in East Kalimantan and has discovered large coal deposits, the minister disclosed.

Indonesia and South Korea have agreed to exchange experts in the framework of technical cooperation between the two countries. In this connection, Indonesia has sent 44 technicians to South Korea and South Korea has sent 11 technicians to Indonesia.

Concerning the petropacific meeting, Subroto said the meeting discussed the application of energy for development efforts in the Pacific countries.

The meeting concluded that OPEC had successfully maintained the stability of oil prices in the international market and that OPEC would play an important role in 1990s, as the world demand for oil was predicted to keep on rising and oil production by non-OPEC countries was expected to continue to decline, Subroto said.

CSO: 4200/45

ROK AGREES TO COOPERATE IN OIL, COAL PROJECTS

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 15 (ANTARA/OANA-YONHAP)--South Korea and Indonesia agreed Friday to maintain close and cooperative relations in Indonesia oil and coal development projects.

At the end of two-day meeting here of the Korea-Indonesia joint committee for mineral resources cooperation, the two countries agreed to jointly promote development of the Madura and (Adlang) oil fields where they have already found commercially valuable oil and gas reserves.

They also agreed to develop a bituminous coal mine in Pasir, East Borneo, at an early date.

In addition, the two countries reached an accord to expand reciprocal resources trade and technology exchange. Two Korean technicians will go to the Southeast Asian country and three Indonesian trainees will come to Korea for skills training this year, according to the agreement.

CSO: 4200/44

NORTH SUMATRA STARTS EXPORTING PALM OIL

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 17 Sep 84

[Text] Medan, Sept. 17 (ANTARA)--North Sumatera has started exporting palm-oil through August and September shipments of 20,000 tons, which is a sure sign that prices and domestic requirements have been stabilized after the early 1984 commotion.

North Sumatera provincial trade office chief Drs. Donnie Djatnika told ANTARA Monday that palm-oil was one of North Sumatera's important commodities and was the biggest contributor to the country's foreign exchange earnings, beside rubber.

He explained that North Sumatera's export volume had dropped during the first semester of this year compared with the same period of the previous year, viz only 376,126 tons this year, while the first six months of last year recorded a volume of 530,000 tons.

According to Donnie Djatnika, this was due to the decline of palm-oil export in early 1984 to guarantee price stability and domestic requirements.

The export of palm-oil during the first semester of 1984 has raised the hope for future increase in export volume and value of this commodity, Donnie Djatnika said.

CSO: 4200/44

BRIEFS

CANADA TO BUILD NUCLEAR LAB--Ottawa, Sept. 21 (ANTARA/AFP)--Canada has offered to build a 40-million-dollar nuclear laboratory in Indonesia, the state atomic energy agency (BATAN) announced here today. Construction of the laboratory, which will be furnished with high-technology and nuclear-medicine equipment, comes within the framework of a nuclear cooperation agreement signed by the two countries in 1982. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 22 Sep 84]

38,772 FAMILIES RESETTLED--Jakarta, Sept. 22 (ANTARA)--A total of 38,772 families of the 125,000 targetted in 1984/85 have up to the middle of this month been resettled in some transmigration sites outside of Java. And 393,170 families of transmigrants in 858 transmigration resettlement units spread in 125 projects in the 20 provinces in the country have been given guidance for living in the new place. This was disclosed by the Minister of Transmigration, Martono, during a working meeting with Commission IV of the People's Legislative Assembly here Monday. For the programs the Government has provided Rp. 448,143,331,000 worth of fund. Of the total Rp. 39,562,989,000.- has been allocated to other ministries, he said. In 1985/86 transmigration ministry envisages to resettle 135,000 families and plans to improve the execution of the program, Minister Martono informed. About foreign aid he said that it is still needed to step up the number of transmigration sites, the living standards of the transmigrants and the managerial capability of the transmigration ministry's officials. In dealing with this the transmigration ministry will always keep to the provisions outlined in the National Policy Guidelines, the 4th Five Year Development Plan and other governmental policies. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 22 Sep 84]

EXPORT REVENUE UP--Jakarta, September 22 (ANTARA)--Indonesia's revenue from exports of oil, natural gas and non-oil/gas commodities stood at US\$ 10,851 million in the first semester of this year, an increase of around 12.93 per cent over US\$ 9,609 million in the corresponding period last year. According to data obtained from the Trade Department, Indonesia's overall export revenue reached in the first semester of this year comprised US\$ 6,362 million from oil exports, US\$ 1,671 million from natural gas exports and US\$ 2,819 million from exports of non-oil/gas commodities. Indonesia recorded a surplus in the balance of trade in June this year. Indonesia's exports and imports in June stood at US\$ 1,986 million and US\$ 1,188 million

respectively, a surplus of US\$ 798 million. Indonesia's export earnings in June this year comprised US\$ 1,475 million from oil and gas exports and US\$ 511.7 million from non-oil/gas exports. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 22 Sep 84]

JAPAN'S NICKEL, BAUXITE IMPORTS--Tokyo, Sept. 26 (ANTARA)--Japan plans to import 650,000 tons of nickel ore from Indonesia in 1984-85 (June-May) under an agreement signed here recently by Indonesia's director general for multifarious mining and the Japanese side. Negotiation on nickel ore sale between Indonesia and Japan is done from year to year and the 650,000 tons figure is the same as that imported by Japan from Indonesia in 1983-84. Meanwhile Japan has also agreed to import bauxite from Indonesia to the volume of four million tons in five years or 800,000 tons a year. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 27 Sep 84]

FRG NAVAL TASK FORCE--Indonesian Naval Chief of Staff Admiral M. Romli yesterday received a courtesy call from the commander of FRG Navy, Task Force 4279, Commodore (Dieter Wegel). The FRG Navy task force of three ships arrived at Jakarta's Tanjungpriok port on 10 October. They will be staying in Indonesia until 15 October and will hold friendly sports matches with their Indonesian counterparts. The FRG Navy personnel will also pay their respects to the Kalibata heroes' cemetery. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 11 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4213/22

GDR NATIONAL DAY, ASSISTANCE

BK081129 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1110 GMT 7 Oct 84

[SPK headline--"Anniversary"]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK 7 October--The Kampuchean people today enthusiastically join the fraternal people of the German Democratic Republic in celebrating their 35th national day, the beautiful workers and peasants state and a firm pillar of socialism in the heart of Europe.

Seven October 1949 [is] the victory day of the GDR people and the proletarian internationalist assistance of the Soviet people in their struggle against Nazi fascism. The foundation of the GDR have brought about significant change in the German people's history and it is also the new step changing from anti-fascist democracy to socialism, and ushered a new prospect for the population.

During the past 35 years under the perspicacious leadership of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, now headed by Erich Honecker and with fruitful assistance from the Soviet Union, the German people had obtained great achievement in all fields, particularly in science and technology. From once completely destroyed country, the GDR today has become one of the 10 modern industrial developing countries in the world and rank among countries of highest national income in the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance and in the world. In 1983 the national GNP of the GDR is 210 billion marks, an increase of nearly 9 times compared with that [at] its foundation. German achievements in the domain of education and culture have been seen in the increase of the number of schools and universities and diverse activities of theatre, cinema, amateur art troupes, etc....

Together with the socialist countries, the GDR has made great efforts to defend the world from the danger of war by checking the arms race, stepping up disarmament and maintaining the military equilibrium between NATO and the Warsaw pacts, the bastion of peace and security in Europe and the world over.

The Kampuchean people strongly support the policy of peace, security and cooperation the GDR is upholding in Eastern Europe. This is the principled, realistic and constructive policy, which favours mutual trust, stability and dynamism in relations with neighbouring states.

Ties of solidarity between the Kampuchean and the German peoples were set up since [a] long time ago. But during the Pol Pot regime, unconditional henchmen of the Chinese expansionists, this solidarity and cooperation was cut off. After the January 1979 historical victory these relations have been resumed immediately. The GDR is one of the first countries that recognized the People's Republic of Kampuchea right after liberation. The GDR, together with the other socialist countries, has made active contributions to the rebirth of the Kampuchean people. Kampuchea's relations with the GDR were further strengthened with President Heng Samrin's visit to the GDR in March 1980 and the signing in Berlin of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, which reaffirmed the GDR's continued moral and material support to the cause of national defence and construction of the Kampuchean people.

The two countries' fraternal ties have reached a new stage with Premier Chan Si's visit now on a visit to GDR, which is bringing tie of solidarity and cooperation more and more closer [sentence as received].

Celebrating the great anniversary of the fraternal German people, we are always grateful for their precious support and assistance to our cause of revolution. We are determined to follow the example set by the German people and uphold the spirit of proletarian internationalism in the struggle against the common enemy, namely U.S. imperialism and other forces of international reactions for the success of socialist construction and the land of Angkor.

CSO: 4200/55

THAI LEADERS EXPOSE 'LIES' ABOUT DISPUTED VILLAGES

BK081524 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 7 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary: "The Thai Administration Has Exposed Its Own Lies"]

[Text] As everyone knows, in his speech delivered on 2 October at the UN General Assembly, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila mentioned withdrawal of Thai troops from the three Lao villages they have illegally occupied since 6 June 1984 for the reason he called "to reduce the tension between Thailand and Laos" and for whatever other lies he could think of.

However, it is a pity that hardly had the lies of Sitthi Sawetsila died down than another powerful man in Thailand--Thai Armed Forces Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek--openly said on Tuesday [2 October] that he had not yet received any instruction from the government to withdraw Thai troops from the three villages.

On 6 October, the Voice of America reported that Thai troops still remained in the three border villages in dispute with Laos, meaning the three Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, which have been attacked and occupied by the Thai troops since 6 June 1984. Even though the Thai side had announced 3 days earlier that it would withdraw troops from the area, the radio reported that a Thai military commander at the three villages had informed its reporter that no troops were withdrawn from the area because he had received no instruction from Bangkok. With regard to this development, on 5 October the Thai national radio carried a Foreign Ministry statement saying that it was difficult for any side to withdraw troops from the area since military operations were already underway and that if such action were carried out it would benefit the other side.

A few days earlier, Thai Army Secretary Major General Nurudon Detpradiyut said: The armed forces went to the three villages to carry out missions at the instructions of the government. If the government ordered them to withdraw, they would have to do so; but so far, no order for withdrawal had been received.

Two months ago on 17 July, Thai Armed Forces Supreme Commander Athit Kamlang-ek said: The troops entered the three villages because they were instructed to do so by the government. If the government ordered them to pull back, they had to do so. In the meantime, Sitthi Sawetsila himself said: The entry into the three villages was purely a military affair; it was a matter for the military to decide whether to withdraw or not.

Judging from all these statements made by a number of important figures in the Thai ruling circles, it can be sufficiently said that the Thai administration's words and deeds are incompatible. It is they themselves who have exposed their own lies to public opinion both at home and abroad. Thus, there is no doubt that the announcement of the withdrawal of troops from the three villages by Sitthi Sawetsila is merely a statement of a liar who hopes to cover up the crimes against the Lao inhabitants in the three villages and to fool the Thai people and all justice-loving people throughout the world, who have come to more clearly understand their true aggressive and deceitful nature and to more strongly condemn and oppose them. In addition, the announcement of troop withdrawal is merely another tactic for Thailand to get elected as a member of the UN Security Council in the forthcoming election. Such a shallow tactic can fool no one. The Thai people as well as the world people are now better educated regarding world affairs and have fully realized the truth about the occupation of the three Lao villages by Thai troops. They will never fall for the simple trick of making an announcement of troop withdrawal, but will wait to witness an actual deed take place.

It is now time for the Thai administration to realize its mistake and urgently solve the problem of their occupation of the three Lao villages in order to return the Thai-Lao relations to normal as before 6 June 1984. On the contrary, if they prolong the occupation of the three Lao villages and continue to tell lies endlessly, the prestige and honor of Thailand and of the Thai administration will be further tarnished because their own lies and deceitful acts will more clearly expose their own true nature. As a result, in the end they will undoubtedly be condemned, isolated, and defeated.

CSO: 4206/14

DIALOGUE CONDEMNS THAI ACTS ON DISPUTED VILLAGES

EKO7010 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 4 Oct 84

[Feature on conversation between Comrade "Ka" and Comrade "Han" on Thai troops' occupation of three Lao villages in Sayaboury Province--date not given; recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted on the sixth resolution adopted by the party Central Committee and on military affairs]

[Ka] I have heard that the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles have a plan to train the so-called Thai national defense volunteers among the local inhabitants of the three Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang. What is the truth about this, comrade?

[Han] You are really interested in this, comrade! It is true, comrade. A week ago Thai television and radio stations and numerous newspapers reported on the training of these so-called Thai national defense volunteers. According to reports, 60 persons underwent a training program. Most of them were local inhabitants from the three Lao villages. The training took 2 months to complete. These persons were to be sent back to their native villages to defend their land and to serve as local militiamen.

[Ka] What do you think about this matter?

[Han] It is as clear as daybreak, comrade. This obviously shows that the ultrarightists in the Thai ruling circles have no intention of settling the problem of the three Lao villages through peaceful means. They only want to continue consolidating the local Thai administrations they have set up in the three Lao villages and to transform these villages into Thai communities and Lao inhabitants into Thai citizens. Then they will proceed to force these Lao inhabitants to take up arms to serve their cunning scheme in occupying the three villages forever. This must be very clear to you by now.

[Ka] They have never paid attention to the condemnation of the Lao and Thai peoples as well as all peace-loving people throughout the world. They are like a big bear eating honeycomb. It will never back down even though it is stung by bees. It will only blindly persist in doing so. They think that they are a big nation. But they never preserve and maintain the honor of a big nation, comrade.

[Han] You are completely right, comrade. At present, the Thai people are extremely fed up with the expansionist and hegemonist ambitions of the ultra-rightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles.

[Ka] Why is it like that, comrade?

[Han] Because their activities run counter to the aspirations of the Thai people to maintain brotherly relations with neighboring countries. They are currently going further in opposing the LPDR. I can talk about this issue for days, comrade. There are so many things to talk about, especially the way that on 26 September the Thai Government handed a protest note to the UN secretary general on the so-called encroachment of Thai sovereignty by Lao troops.

[Ka] What? They said that?

[Han] They accused Lao troops of shelling Ban Mai village and killing and wounding a number of their troops. Such was a cunning trick of the Thai side. This clearly indicates that they think that they have sovereignty over Lao soil.

[Ka] I think this is enough for today. We can talk about it in the future, comrade.

[Han] I think so, comrade. I must say good-bye now. Good luck.

[Ka] So long, comrade.

CSO: 4206/14

DETERMINATION TO RETAKE VILLAGES REITERATED

BK060542 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 3 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Expose the Aggressors' True, Stubborn Nature"]

[Text] Under the title "Face on the Line," the weekly magazine FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW wrote in its 4 October 1984 issue that in Bangkok an official of the Thai Foreign Ministry revealed that the clashes have taken place between the Lao and Thai military forces in Uttaradit Province in the recent past because the Thai Army has held firmly to the wrong map printed by the U.S. Army in 1978. In the map, the three Lao villages are mistakenly included in Thai territory. The news sources also indicated that the Thai Army has firmly built and strengthened bases in the three villages and that the Lao side has regarded the Thai action as a challenge and provocation. Now, however, the Thai Army had admitted that there might be a mistake in the 1978 map. Considering the matter of saving face as important, however, the Thai Army has stubbornly refused to withdraw from its bases in the villages. Regarding this, Athit Kamlang-ek has openly said that by having decided to send troops to seize the three villages, he has performed his duty, sticking to the Thai map. He has also said that the troops cannot be withdrawn unilaterally because such an action would be a loss of dignity and might affect the survival of the Thai Government.

It is obvious that the three villages--Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang--are located in Lao territory. All evidence presented by the Lao side is legally correct and undeniable. On the contrary, the evidence which has been presented by the Thai side, with only the 1978 map, is of no legal value and cannot be used to deceive anyone. In view of this, the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles have been daily isolated in public opinion at home and abroad. Despite this, they have continued to refuse to settle the problem of the three villages by correct and just means. They are fully aware that the dispatch of troops to seize the three Lao villages is a serious mistake and that it has brought no benefit, but rather shame and loss to the Thai nation and people.

With the pretext of fearing the loss of face, Athit Kamlang-ek has refused to withdraw the troops unilaterally. This is a very stubborn and shameful pretext. He has placed his own dignity above the loss of sovereignty of an independent country that is recognized by himself and that has maintained diplomatic relations with his country. This is actually an abuse of authority by those who

consider themselves powerful enough to do anything at will. It is an act of a Pan-Thaist who intimidates and oppresses a neighboring country, an act which has been outdated for a long time.

The Lao people would like sincerely to warn the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles that the best, most dignified way out for them is promptly and unconditionally to withdraw the Thai troops from the three Lao villages, return the Lao citizens to their native villages, and pay compensation to the Lao people for the losses. Only in this way can the Thai troops be saved from getting killed and can the face of the well-intentioned Thai nation and people be saved. The Lao people have always desired peace and have wanted to resolve the problem peacefully and to consolidate good Lao-Thai relations in conformity with the spirit of the 1979 joint statement. But the Lao people, like those of other nations in the world, have also highly upheld and loved their sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Lao people have maintained and been compelled to exercise their just rights to self-defense in order to retake the three villages. Sooner or later or through whatever means it may be, the three villages must certainly be retaken to be under Lao sovereignty.

CSO: 4206/14

BRIEFS

HANOI LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY MARKED--Vientiane, 5 October (OANA-KPL)--A meeting marking the 30th anniversary of Hanoi liberation (10 October 1954) was held here yesterday at the brick and charcoal factory, 14 kms south of Vientiane. It was attended, among others, by Dr Siho Bannavong, vice-chairman of the Vientiane Administrative Committee, and Nguyen Dinh Hiep, vice-chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee and head of a Hanoi experts' team to Vientiane. Nguyen Dinh Hiep, in his speech, spoke of the great victory gained by the Vietnamese people, in particular the Hanoi residents, in the struggle against the enemy 30 years ago. Within the 5-year term, 1978-83, Hanoi helped build 10 projects as non-refundable aid to Vientiane for the development of the Lao capital's economy. Hanoi also helped train 120 technicians from Vientiane. [Excerpts] [Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 5 Oct 84 BK]

HUNGARIAN TRADE DELEGATION DEPARTS--Vientiane, 5 October (KPL)--A Hungarian trade delegation led by its Deputy-Minister Kaplar Jozsef left here for home yesterday ending its friendship visit to Laos. While here, the delegation called on Lao leader, signed a protocol of trade between Hungary and Laos for 1985, and toured various production bases in Vientiane Prefecture. Seeing the delegation off at the airport were Chanpheng Bounnaphon, first deputy-minister of trade, and other high ranking officials. The Hungarian economic counsellor in Laos was also present at the airport. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 5 Oct 84 BK]

SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS--Vientiane, 5 October (KPL)--The delegation of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association led by Y.M. Kadatskiy, president of the Vocational Education Committee of Ukraine, left here on 3 October, ending a week-long visit to Laos. Bidding farewell to the Soviet delegation at the airport was Khamliang Phonsena, acting-minister of public health, and other senior officials. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 5 Oct 84 BK]

WOMEN'S DELEGATION TO VIETNAM--Vientiane, 6 October (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Women's Union [LWA] led by Khamphon Phimmaseng, member of the Executive Committee of LWU's secretariat, left here today for a friendship visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. During its stay, the delegation will exchange experiences and lessons in the field of mother and child care and related works with its Vietnamese counterparts. This visit is made within the framework of UNICEF program. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0936 GMT 6 Oct 84 BK]

SOVIET GIFTS--Vientiane, 10 October (KPL)--The Soviet Peace Committee yesterday handed gifts over to the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations. The gifts included two cars, film projectors, motor-bikes, bicycles and photo-enlargers. Present at the hand-over ceremony on the Lao side were Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, president of the said committee, and on the Soviet side, Dollers Khalioulline [spelling as received] first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 10 Oct 84 BK]

SOCIALIST LABOR DAY MARKED--Vientiane, 8 October (KPL)--Over 300 persons in Vientiane Prefecture took part in a socialist labour day on 6 October on the opening of a solidarity week for the 30th anniversary of the liberation of Hanoi. Also taking part in the work were General Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the party CC and of the party committee of Vientiane, Dr Siho Bannavong, vice-chairman of Vientiane, Nguyen Dinh Hiep, vice-chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee and head of a Hanoi experts' team to Vientiane, Ngoun Phansiphon, ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to Laos. Nearly 1,000 metres of irrigation canal was dug by the participants that day. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 8 Oct 84]

SISOMPHON LOVANSAI RECEIVES EDITOR--Vientiane, 11 October (KPL)--Thep Moi, deputy editor-in-chief of NHAN DAN, the organ of the CPV CC, yesterday paid a courtesy visit to Sisomphon Lovansai, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC. The meeting was proceeded in a warm and cordial discussion. Earlier in the morning of the same day, a protocol on journalistic cooperation was signed here between Houmpheny Sinpaseut, deputy editor-in-chief of the Lao party organ PASASON and Thep Moi. On the occasion signatures to documents on the implementation of the 1985's cooperation agreement between PASASON and NHAN DAN were also given by both sides. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0850 GMT 11 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4200/55

COMMENTARY VIEWS RACIAL POLARIZATION ISSUE

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 23 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] Arguments on racial polarization have currently become the hottest topic of discussion not only in the newspapers but also at leisurely gatherings. In reality, the issue of racial polarization did not crop up today, but has existed in our society since long before we achieved independence. However, due to certain objective and subjective factors, as well as national policy restrictions, the citizens did not dare to discuss racial polarization openly.

Now that the Education Ministry has discovered the phenomenon of ethnic polarization in schools, this problem has surfaced for discussion and spread out rampantly. This unhealthy fact exists not only in schools but has also been discovered among functionaries in various government units and departments, and even in all fields.

How can such an unhealthy phenomenon exist? Especially in our country, such polarization cancer, which can endanger our society as a whole, should theoretically be averted and even uprooted. Yet, its roots are deeply entrenched in the respective nationalities, and it has grown and ramified even beyond the seas to affect our overseas students' organizations. It may be said that the effect of polarization is growing stronger with the passage of time.

The stronger this force becomes, the greater danger our country faces.

It is not that our civic personages and national leaders have failed to notice this point, but because, bluntly speaking, everybody has been taking care of his own racial interests and has refused to face or solve the problem.

It is an undeniable fact that the structure of our society is different from some countries. Consequently, in formulating or implementing our national policies the authorities must take into consideration the differing traits of our social structure, and this naturally has produced a certain kind of irregularities. As a matter of fact, in spite of this social structure, the policies need not be administered in favor of a certain nationality at the expense of others; they can still be implemented fairly and equally for the benefit of the whole nation and its prosperous development. Drawing up

national policies should be based on the principle of "national interest is above everything else." Many countries in the world are emulating this principle.

As a matter of fact, the most glaring example of polarization in our country is to be found among political parties. Although some parties profess to be multiracial in character, there is still a distinct racial demarcation, especially those which are made up of one predominant race and which enjoy the support of that particular race exclusively. While this polarization is still restricted to race-based political parties, yet such phenomenon is unhealthy and detrimental to the progress of our nation.

Indeed, racial polarization is not formed in one day, but brought about by many factors. Consequently, if we want to solve this problem, we must not expect to get any result in a day. We need an orderly process to achieve it, and the main thing to accomplish this mission is national leadership and national policies.

We need not deny that many among our national policies are the principal factors for bringing about racial polarization, which have widened the gap among the nationalities in various fields. If these policies are not discarded or rectified, polarization is bound to worsen, and this really is not a situation our national leaders or our citizens would like to see.

We want to state that in bringing up our view on this matter, we do not wish to challenge the existing policies of our government but to express our concern over polarization.

9300

CSO: 4205/1

SUBSIDY RATE FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS RESTORED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 23 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] The Finance Ministry has approved that beginning next January, the subsidy rate for Chinese language teachers will be restored from M\$20 to M\$25 per hour.

This was disclosed to our reporter by Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Tan Tiong Hong today.

Yesterday the deputy education minister, Datin Rosemary Chong had expressed hope that subsidies for Chinese language teachers would be restored to the 1982 level.

At that time, the rates were M\$25 for a college-educated teacher and M\$20 for a noncollege-educated teacher per hour. Later, the subsidies were cut due to financial difficulties of the government.

Datuk Dr Tan said that when he assumed the post of deputy education minister, he expressed concern over this problem. After he was transferred to become deputy finance minister, he felt that it should be given a high priority to ensure the smooth operation of Chinese language courses.

It is expected that the increase in subsidy rates will help attract more teachers to teach in Chinese language classes.

During the year of 1983, subsidy rates for Chinese language teachers were slashed as follows: Teaching Chinese in a primary school, M\$5 per hour; in a junior high school, M\$7 per hour; and in a senior high school, M\$10 per hour.

The cut in subsidy rates caused many teachers to relinquish teaching Chinese in mother-tongue classes, which in turn resulted in a serious shortage of Chinese language teachers.

Early this year, the Education Ministry raised the subsidy rates as follows: M\$15 per hour to a teacher with university qualifications, and M\$10 per hour to a teacher with secondary school qualifications.

Even so, the Education Ministry is still meeting with difficulties in recruiting teachers to teach in Chinese language classes.

VOPM CRITICIZES JAPANESE CONSTRUCTION 'MONOPOLY'

BK190721 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 17 Oct 84

["News report": "Japanese Construction Companies Threatening the Existence of Construction Companies in Our Country"]

[Summary from poor reception] "The 'Look East' policy has made Japan an exemplary country for study. The bureaucratic capitalist class hoped that the Japanese monopoly investment group would extend technological assistance and also hold out Japanese work ethics and administration system as examples for emulation."

The reactionary regime has thus given priority attention to the Japanese construction companies. For example, UDA [Urban Development Authority] selected a Japanese construction company for the construction of the Dayabumi complex and said that Malaysia could acquire modern technological knowledge from the Japanese. Not only are the Japanese construction companies considered superior to local construction companies, but they also have huge amounts of capital, modern techniques, and vast experiences. On the other hand, the reactionary regime is said to cooperate closely with the Japanese Government, and it also is said that the Japanese Government rendered various employment services to the people.

According to the reactionary regime, Japanese construction companies have the advantage in winning contracts for mammoth projects because they are well established financially and also have the latest techniques. Some three years ago, \$500 million [Malaysian dollars] worth of projects was awarded to Japanese and South Korean construction companies. Japanese construction companies won bids for the construction of multimillion ringgit projects such as the Dayabumi complex, the UMNO headquarters, the National Trading Corporation headquarters, the Employees Provident Fund headquarters, and the Selangor State Development Corporation low-cost housing projects.

With Japanese Government participation, the local construction companies are unable to compete with their Japanese counterparts. Their very livelihood is threatened, as even bricks, steel, and aluminium foil paper for construction are being imported from Japan. These materials can be obtained locally. The local contractors, suppliers, and construction companies became infuriated and dissatisfied over this issue and also lost the opportunity to compete. Thus our country's economic growth has been hindered due to the Kuala Lumpur regime's giving away contracts to Japanese construction companies with the hope that the Japanese companies would transfer technological knowledge to their local counterparts. However, in modern society, nothing is freely given without any strings attached. The Japanese are arrogant and dishonest. The use of local workers does not mean that technology transfer occurs.

"Local construction industry leaders said that although the Japanese companies appointed certain local construction companies to act as their agents, these companies are not necessarily bound to make huge profits. On the contrary, the local shareholders pay dearly for the Japanese experts, who will never reveal any theories that figure in decisionmaking because this is considered industrial secrecy." Knowing that conspiracy thrives among foreign countries, including Japan, the local construction companies realized that they had to lessen the competition among themselves in order to protect their collective interests. Therefore, they are actively improving their own technology in order to strengthen their efforts in the competition against foreign construction companies.

The local contractors criticized the government for giving priority attention to foreign contractors, including Japan. The government has denied the local companies their attention, and the local contractors feel that, given the opportunity, they would be able to produce results comparable to those of their Japanese counterparts. They proposed that government projects worth less than \$100 million [Malaysian dollars] given priority consideration to local construction companies.

"Minister for National and Regional Development Sanusi Junid said that local construction companies should not have sour feelings toward the Japanese and South Korean companies because they were made several offers in the country." From his statement it can be understood that the reactionary regime has changed its attitude and is now favoring foreign construction companies, including Japanese companies, and that it is not earnestly helping local construction companies to overcome the threat from foreign companies.

Under the "Look East" slogan, Japanese investment monopoly and technology have been highly praised. Also, Japanese investment has been allowed to infiltrate our country's economic sectors. The Japanese construction companies' monopoly on the country's construction industry is dealing the people heavy blows.

CSO: 4213/23

VOPM CITES OPPOSITION TO SINGAPORE PRESS MERGER

BK161141 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 15 Oct 84

["News report": "Merger of Two Newspaper Groups Causes Extreme Anger in Singapore Press"]

[Excerpts] On 11 July this year, less than 1 1/2 years since the forced merger of the two largest Chinese-language newspapers in Singapore and the reorganization of Chinese and English-language newspapers, the SINGAPORE NEWS AND PUBLICATION LIMITED [SNPL], the TIMES News Limited, and STRAITS TIMES Company controlled by Singapore's largest press group announced that the boards of directors of the three newspapers had reached an agreement to merge the three news companies into a new company. It is reported that the merger was made for the following reasons:

1. To economize greatly on both annual and capital expenses.
2. To establish large printing corporations in order to pool financial resources to promote techniques in communications and other fields.
3. To achieve the common aspirations of the multilanguage newspapers so as to promote further the quality of the contents of the newspapers and to unite further the media of various major languages.

Following the merger of the three newspaper companies, the big capitalists in the newspaper group can in fact reduce their expenses, avoid competition among themselves, and gain abundant profits. However, many newspaper workers will probably lose their jobs. What has drawn more public attention is that as a result of the government's monopolization, Singapore newspapers will channel only the government's views and will be unable to express different ones.

Consequently, the merger of the two press groups was basically aimed at further restricting press freedom and controlling mass media to preserve dictatorial rule. The reorganization and merger of the newspapers and monopolization of the news and printing companies by a share-holding company were strange phenomena in capitalist Singapore. A journalist of a Japanese newspaper said that newspaper merger had taken place only in Singapore.

Having lost their patience with being subjected to the Lee Kuan Yew regime's harassment and having their basic rights trampled upon, Singapore's journalists have risen up to launch a struggle. After news of the merger of the three

newspapers spread, about 200 workers of THE STRAIT TIMES wearing black arm bands staged a demonstration on 12 July in the rain in front of THE STRAIT TIMES building on Kim Seng Road. Most of the demonstrators were members of the board of directors with the remainder being workers in the advertising and production departments. The demonstrators hung three banners on the fence of the building. Slogans on the banners read: No Merger, Whose Idea Is This, and Competition Benefits Singapore. Slogans on the banners in their hands read among other things: Don't kill the spirit of journalism, We are [words indistinct] following the merger, This is what is happening now, and what is the next move? Some slogans read: Merge Banks, designed to ridicule the Lee Kuan Yew regime. They continued to shout the slogan: No merger. The demonstration, which began at 1230, lasted over an hour. It rained heavily. They continued their struggle, however, although they were drenched by a torrential rain.

From the reactions of news circles and relevant figures from various other circles, it is common knowledge that the people have opposed the merger of the two newspaper groups. Public dissatisfaction, anger, and anxiety are indeed well grounded. The management board of the newspaper group and the Lee Kuan Yew regime have made sweet promises. However, how far can such promises be trusted? The answer is indeed in the hearts of the people. Not many people will trust their empty words.

CSO: 4213/23

AMBUSH ATTACK BY CPM FACTION CONDEMNED

BK041054 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 3 Oct 84

[7 September 1984 "Statement" by the "Party Executive Committee of the 3d Military Region of the Malaysian People's Liberation Army" entitled: "Strongly Condemn the Crimes Committed by a Handful of Leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau of the CPM Central Committee Who Laid an Ambush for Our Troops"]

[Text] At 1000 on the morning of 15 August 1984, a group of armed men under the control of the Northern Malayan Bureau of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) Central Committee once again ambushed a mass recruiting unit of our army on the northeastern Kedah-Thai border. It was the eighth bloody ambush masterminded by a handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau of the CPM Central Committee and another new crime perpetrated by them in their efforts to destroy our country's revolution.

This ambush constituted a premeditated counterrevolutionary conspiracy. Having infiltrated into a village where our army was operating, the armed men controlled by a handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau of the CPM Central Committee planted landmines and laid in ambush on a small path on the bank of a river with a view to completely annihilating our army's fighters operating in the area. However, under a counterattack mounted by our brave fighters, they had to retreat in disarray. The evil conspiracy of the handful of leaders of Northern Malayan Bureau was totally crushed. After the incident, they acted in an even fiercer manner, threatening to launch another attack on our fighters and making efforts to turn the village into a battleground. What an arrogant attitude they have!

Under their blatant intimidation, many of the villagers were compelled to evacuate to other places. We strongly condemn the handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau who committed a new crime against our army, and strongly condemn their inhuman acts which will create more bloody incidents and terrorize the masses of people.

Fourteen years ago, a handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau arbitrarily committed murder and torture against our comrades in the party and in the army. For the last few years, they have repeatedly unleashed their armed forces to destroy the revolutionary front and obstructed the development of the revolution by various means. What they have done thus far has utterly exposed their evil intent and (ugly) face. They have clearly played a role enslaving themselves for the interests of the reactionary group. The handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau

have become increasingly isolated during the past few years. Under such circumstances, they prefer to let their counterrevolutionary armed gang of robbers occupy the vast revolutionary region. They tyrannize and oppress the villagers and set up their bases rather than allowing our fighters to implement work programs in the regions they have left abandoned for many years.

In their effort to harass and undermine the activities of our army to unite the masses and implement revolutionary work programs, they have tried all ways and means to spread rumors and slanders with a view to setting our army against the masses. They have instructed robbers to give information to the reactionary authorities so that our army can be destroyed by the reactionary army. They murder people who diligently support our army so that our army will have no more support. They repeatedly send their armed men to ambush our army with a view to widening the rift in the revolutionary front and creating a new blood feud. All people that uphold revolutionary principles detest their actions.

The village where our army fighters were ambushed is in a region that they abandoned more than 2 years ago. Not only do they want to discontinue the revolution, but they also deviate and harass those who want to continue the revolution. As such, they have made themselves a stumbling block to the progress of the revolution.

To create an armed provocation will only hurt the feelings of the masses and delight the enemies. We hope that comrades who are now still misled by the handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau will come to their senses and face reality, identify the situation, renounce their blind loyalties, give priority to the general interest of the masses and the future of the revolution, realistically study the past and present situation, seriously compare the experiences and lessons of other countries' revolutionary struggle, think independently and profoundly, and firmly oppose the evil conspiracy of the handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau as well as aim their guns toward the common enemy, that is to say, the Kuala Lumpur reactionary regime.

We want to advise the handful of leaders of the Northern Malayan Bureau to return to the original path and refrain from committing extreme actions. It is better for you all to do something good for the people. If you do not want to repent and instead continue to commit mistakes, you will eventually be isolated from the people and the revolution.

We still believe that many comrades in the CPM, including many executive cadres, are honest fighters for the people. They are comrades-in-arms who share their lives with us. We always believe that the original forces of the CPM should create a better understanding among themselves through meetings and dialogues so that unnecessary misunderstandings can be removed. They should distinguish right from wrong and work together to realize the great revolutionary unity and unification.

[Signed] The Party Executive Committee of the 3d Military Region of the Malaysian People's Liberation Army.

[dated] 7 September 1984.

ANTI-MUSLIM CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

East Burnham THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Oct 84 pp 76-77

[Text]

● The Christian missionary onslaught, a chronic and well-known issue in Indonesia, has been the subject of recent and renewed protests by concerned Muslims. Indonesian officials, however, dismiss these expressions of concern as gimmicks by crooks keen to collect donations from Muslims who care for Islam. This is in turn denied by Muslim activists, who cite literature and reports submitted by Christian missionaries to their headquarters in Europe and the US and which are even published in their newspapers and circulars.

It is true, however, that the missionaries' achievements do not reflect the effort and money they spent to convert Indonesian Muslims to Christianity, due to the strong resistance and defence of Islam in that country by its Muslim organisations, backed by Muslims throughout the world.

These missionary activities are spearheaded by converted Muslims such as Rifai Burhanuddin, who became a vicar, and Yusuf Roum, Hambran Amry and others who, once converted, became some of the fiercest missionaries among Muslims. They have misrepresented certain concepts and teachings of Islam with the aim of disguising and camouflaging their false claims and propaganda from the eyes of Muslims.

Evidence for this can be seen in correspondence as late as June 1982 between Burhanuddin and A Hendrix, head of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Jakarta, concerning a conference on the theme of "Services directed to Muslims." It is clear, therefore, that attempts are still going on to encourage Muslims to accept, through cheating and deceit, the Bible as their book and Jesus Christ as their God and

Saviour. Such attempts are not confined to Indonesian Muslims alone but are extended to include the Muslims of Asia and the Pacific.

In whose interest, and why, do officials insist on denying the existence and scope of Christian missionary activities in Indonesia? This is the question posed by puzzled Islamic activists engaged in the battle against these campaigns, directed largely against unsuspecting Muslims.

Retired General Sama Tobing, a pillar of the Indonesian Council (Synd) of Churches and the World Council of Churches put forward, in 1978, his idea of the need for assigning Christians to higher posts in all the government departments in Indonesia. This has since been effected in many official posts, especially in Manado in Sulawesi Province, where all top and second rank posts are filled by Christians. The same is true of the armed forces.

Christians enrol in US and European universities on grants covering all expenses furnished by local and foreign organisations. They then return to Indonesia, having received the highest university degrees in various fields of scientific and technical specialities, to take top state jobs as part of an overall strategy to determine the future course of Muslim Indonesia.

Another strategy was the attempt to exploit the internal (or local) emigration system, one of the most important development projects in the country the aims of which are: to reduce the population density in Java which has led, among other things, to a great reduction in production and job opportunities, and to make available new opportunities for employment and production to help the relocated population in their new areas of settlement outside Java. The new areas

are usually very fertile land but badly in need of manpower to cultivate it.

Internal emigration policies were the product of the Dutch colonial period, when the population of Indonesia was half its present number. The strategy was continued after independence, especially as a result of a population increase on the island of Java. The Christians found in these policies a great opportunity to achieve their objectives, as the emigrants were usually the very poor and the illiterate who were transferred to areas of virgin forests away from cities and populated centres.

Government attempts to put these policies into practice, however, faced enormous difficulties owing to lack of funds. Out of the blue there came church bodies, especially the Catholic Church, to offer their services to achieve the government's goal but only on condition that the government "prepare and make ready" the areas to which the population for relocation would be sent. These people would thus become dependent on these Christian organisations.

During the colonial era, the Catholic Church proffered its services to the emigrants in the Province of Iambon (sic) which has turned into a major stronghold of missionaries and conversion activities. Had it not been for the Muhammadiyah Organisation which opposed them and provided the Islamic alternatives for those deprived and poverty-stricken Muslims, they would surely have taken an easy prey of the missionaries. The Muhammadiyah Organisation would build a mosque opposite every church and an Islamic school opposite every missionary school in the settlements of the new population. Hospitals were also built in the same way.

However, missionaries are far better equipped than their Muslim rivals. Missionary bodies now own ships and planes to facilitate their movements in the backward areas of Indonesia, and have acquired the Muhammadiyah Flight Association, established by US pilots who were discharged from service at the end of the second world war. This association owns 28 Cessna planes and seven airports in the western Irian (sic) hinterland, as well as several helicopters. A National Missionary Flight Association has thus been established.

Western Kalimantan has its own air service with its airports at its disposal, linking areas of the hinterland with the major towns. Communications would otherwise be very difficult due to the many

rivers and swamps covering the area.

All this is going on while Islamic dayas active in the hinterland areas are limited to using boats. Indeed, the Higher Indonesian Council for Islamic Transport was unable to provide them with a more efficient mode of transport. These dayas are paid to work indeed, working without complaint and for payments that do not exceed \$20 a month.

It is worth mentioning that local government administration in the area described kept the issue of missionaries at service for the movement of their personnel, post and similar work. Also, the Indonesian Missionary Flight Association, which was established in February 1984, has as one of its directors retired General Loekepoed, a former Indonesian officer and ambassador to the Philippines.

The missionaries are also making use of credit unions, which are active in poor areas and have of late intensified their activities, especially during the period of economic recession.

Another attempt to create the Islamic values of Indonesian society is represented by the new Pancasila philosophy, now part of the educational curricula in Indonesia and derived by the education and culture minister as a substitute for Islam. In a sense, he is attempting to peruse the tradition of the spirit of Pancasila as a source of ethical values and take any other religion.

The ministry has published six books on the subject, six of which are set for elementary schools, three for intermediate schools, and three for secondary schools. In these books are included all that is essential to make religious beliefs and to endorse and glorify them, and all religious are put on an equal footing.

An example of this degradation is the following dialogue in one of these books between a father and his child:

Father: What is Uncle Sodero's religion? No one has ever seen him go into a mosque, church or temple.

Uncle Sodero, son, is a man of no belief, he does not belong to any of those religions, but he is a good man who likes to do good deeds and to help others.

In other words, not belonging to a religion does not contradict the possibility of being good and honest. Muslim educationalists strongly protested against the introduction of these books and against their content because of the threat to their beliefs, but the process

were ignored by the then Minister of Education Dawood Yousuf (sic)

New Education Minister Notohadi (sic) Notowijanto decided to withdraw more than eight million copies of the books and to return them for pulping. But the government is still keen on imposing the principles of Pancasila on the people of Indonesia and on their political and social organisations, thus effectively uniting the three main parties into one.

Islamic organisations such as the Muslim University Students Organisation and the Muhammadiyah Organisation have been forced to modify their articles of association. Pancasila is now to be their only basis, instead of Islam, which was their foundation and the reason for their very existence.

In its annual general meeting of 1982 the Muslim University Students Organisation declared that it would adhere to its Islamic basis and principles until constitutional legislation is passed dictating otherwise, when it will react in a way and manner befitting the circumstances. As for the Muhammadiyah Organisation, its leader, Haji Abdul Malik Ahmad announced that it could not replace Islam by Pancasila as the organisation "was founded 75 years ago on the basis of Islam and for Islam". How could it do without it now? He continued that if the organisation followed government dictates it would either adopt the false pretence of identifying with Pancasila while still adhering to Islam, which is contrary to Islamic values and ethics, or completely do without its Islamic basis, thus betraying its own principles.

The "System for Exchange of Views" between the different religions in Indonesia — which was set up under government direction and consists of the Council of Muslim Ulama of Indonesia, the Higher Council of Catholic Church Clergy of Indonesia, the Church Synod of Indonesia, the Hindu Council of Indonesia, the Hindu Council of Batak, Hindu Darma and the Buddhist Council — has decided that it is the responsibility of every religious leader to promote religious faith in their own followers and to endeavour to make good citizens of them.

One of the most outrageous anti-Islamic actions of the government was the forbidding, for intermediate and secondary schoolgirls, of them wearing a headscarf with their school uniform. Any schoolgirl wearing a headscarf and modest Islamic dress is given the choice of

either retaining this dress but going to another school, or throwing away her headscarf and staying in the original school. In order to put that into effect some school administrators called in government troops who used their rifles against the girls, some of whom sustained injuries.

Students and teachers reacted vigorously to these outrages, but the newspapers did not publish these events despite the fact that the schoolgirls showed no provocative conduct towards students or other schoolgirls. What is even more astonishing is the hostile attitude of some teaching staff towards the girls when they saw the same staff turn a blind eye to drug addiction or indecent behaviour of other school children.

The government has also reduced the number of hours devoted to religious education in schools by half, even though the original number of hours allocated was inadequate.

To live up to these sad reality (the challenges to Islam in Indonesia), the Higher Indonesian Council on Islamic Dawah has decided to appoint (amongst full-time highly qualified ulama) to the Islamic areas that are most vulnerable and which suffer from different types of evils: illness, poverty and backwardness. The Council argues that 500 ulama (compulsory) the inhabitants of those areas to teach and guide them.

The Council is dealing with Islamic colleges and schools with the objective of improving teaching standards, by reforming their curricula and training and qualifying their staff, also to improve coordination. The Council has established "Islamic College Unions" in the districts of Eastern Java, Middle Java, Yogyakarta, Western Java and Western Sumatra. In addition, standards of the darsah will be raised by holding training courses for them where they will receive training in sciences, arts and culture subjects related to dawah techniques.

The Council also publishes Islamic books and magazines, the most important of which are:

- Friday sermons bulletin, a weekly publication with a circulation of 250,000.
- "The Voice of Mosques", a monthly publication providing its readers with articles on Shari'a sciences, social issues and other sciences and arts.
- "The Media Dawah" magazine, An-Ishtar monthly, intended to provide the propagandist and the reader with all necessary dawah material.

- "Sahabat" Islamic magazine for children, probably the only one of its kind that has an Islamic perspective.

Furthermore, the Council has a policy of building mosques on campuses, which have a very important role to play in providing university students with Islamic education. They also serve as student centres. Examples so far are Salahuddin Mosque, Debo Nikoro Centre and Salman al-Farsi Mosque of Bandung Polytechnic.

CSO: 4200/67

UMNO-PAS CONTROVERSY DESCRIBED

East Burnham THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Oct 84 pp 72, 73

[Text]

Whatever definition Islamic scholars may give to the term Islamisation, in Malaysian prime minister Mahathir's dictionary it perhaps means the banning of Islamic parties. Not very long ago it was the Parti Negara Islam Malaysia (PNIM) which was denied permission to register as a political party; now it is the opposition Parti Islam (PAS) which faces an indefinite ban on all political activities in Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu.

The decision to curb Islamic party activities came as no surprise as the Mahathir-led ruling party UMNO had made it clear in its recently concluded conference that any opposition to its brand of Islamisation would not be tolerated. UMNO's interpretation of Islamisation can be understood from the remarks of the deputy leader of UMNO's women's wing, Marina Yusuf, who reportedly said: "Hijab is not Islamic, it is only an Arab custom. Arab women wear them for hiding themselves from their overdemanding men."

PAS, the only party to have held power outside the National Front coalition, and which ruled Kelantan for 19 years until 1978 and Trengganu between 1959 and 1961, is considered by UMNO's leadership as one of the main contenders for power. The demands of PAS that Malaysia should be declared an Islamic state with an Islamic constitution are interpreted by "official Islamists" as the major threats to UMNO's political interests.

Efforts to harass PAS workers are said to have been going on for some time, but the detention of Mohamad Sabu, general secretary of the party's youth wing, Al-Bakar Chik, a state legislator, at Bunvamin Yaakub, the party's active

public relations officer under the Internal Security Act (ISA) in July is the first clear indication that the UMNO leadership is determined to use official machinery for its political ends. It is the first time that the ISA has been invoked against UMNO's political opponents.

The arrested members of PAS were accused of threatening the unity and integrity of the country, a charge that has not been substantiated by any concrete evidence so far. These Islamic workers are being held in police custody without trial, with little hope that they will ever be brought before a fair court of justice.

The arrests were the first step towards more concerted action against PAS. In August, during the *Itima Mustadafin* (meeting of the deprived and dispossessed), organised by PAS and which was attended by thousands of party members and supporters, farmers and landless peasants, the police tried unsuccessfully to intervene and disperse the meeting. The government blamed PAS for causing traffic jams — mostly caused by the police themselves — and banned the political activities. The government then explained that as Kedah and Perlis were border states the PAS meeting might encourage the communists to organise subversive activities.

However, these charges may be dismissed as superficial because in the past Mahathir has used them against all his political opponents whenever they have posed any challenge to his style of leadership. The main reasons for banning the Islamic party are said to be ideological and political. UMNO is a secular party determined to westernise Malaysian society; its policies, particularly in the field of education, have made it clear that the leadership

is keen to introduce materialistic values in a religious environment.

UMNO is led by a tiny, urban-educated, westernised Malaysian elite who believe that the rise of an Islamic party would jeopardise the economic and political interests of the groups it serves. Growing support for PAS, particularly in the Kubang Pasu constituency in Kedah which is Mahathir's own seat, was causing concern to the UMNO leadership. It was becoming increasingly clear that PAS was gaining some success in convincing the people that Mahathir and his colleagues were in fact pursuing the western model of development under the pretext of Islam. Similarly the PAS argument that UMNO had undermined the Islamic heritage of Malaysia by confining Islam to a "university and a bank" was also receiving support from the masses.

As a result, the Mahathir administration acted in defence of UMNO's political interests by banning PAS from participation in political activities. Interestingly,

this government decision has come at a time when an ex-ABIM leader is holding the chairmanship of UMNO's youth wing as well as a ministerial position in Mahathir's cabinet. In the past, Anwar Ibrahim, while a leader of ABIM, was critical of UMNO's anti-Islamic party policies. However, Anwar's silence is not unexpected since when, in 1983, Parti Negara Islam Malaysia was denied registration, Anwar did not condemn the government's decision.

The banning of PAS has been severely attacked by Islamic circles both inside and outside Malaysia. The action is seen by many Islamic workers as an attempt to stifle a genuine Islamic voice inside Malaysia. The ban is likely to unite various Malaysian Islamic groups in evolving a common strategy for effectively confronting the Mahathir government. In London, the Islamic Representative Council (IRC), Suara-al-Islam, the Malaysian Islamic Study Group (MISG) and Kesatuan Melayu-UK (KMUK) have already joined in condemning Mahathir's actions.

How PAS-UMNO Split Developed

Our correspondent *Kamaruddin Jaafar* adds: The basic cause of the present UMNO-PAS frictions must be seen in its historical context. Although Islamic-oriented political activities occurred sporadically in Malaysia since the beginning of this century, the most effective Malay-Muslim political vehicle began with the formation of UMNO in 1946, which successfully challenged the British post-second world war political proposals that would deny the Malays their supremacy vis-a-vis the immigrant Chinese and Indian communities.

Since then UMNO has continuously scored convincing successes in the elections. PAS, however, was also enjoying considerable support from the Malays who viewed it as a pure Islamic party as opposed to the UMNO-led but multicomunal government. UMNO's largely western-oriented leaders further alienated the party from a section of the Malays.

The communal riots of Kuala Lumpur in May 1969, however, led to some significant changes within the two parties. UMNO leaders felt obliged to increase the Islamic elements within their party ideology; PAS leaders thought it necessary for their party to

be in the government at the national level to broaden the party's appeal. As a result PAS joined the newly-formed coalition government in 1973 and entered the elections in the following year as part of the UMNO-led National Front.

PAS involvement in the federal government did not actually bring it much success. Relations between PAS and UMNO soon turned sour due to differences over the policies of the PAS-controlled Kelantan state government. In 1977 PAS decided to leave the National Front; shortly after that it lost Kelantan to UMNO in the state elections.

In the meantime the PAS membership and leadership had undergone some significant changes. By the mid-seventies there emerged a young generation of Malays who had just completed an educational system which gave very little emphasis to Islamic knowledge. The generation "adopted" Islam only during their university or college years and were part of the Islamic resurgence of the last decade. They formed the bulk of the membership of the Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia (ABIM) and they were also the new entrants to PAS. Their

vigour, enthusiasm and mobility made up for their lack of number, and it was their somewhat extreme demands and Iranian-style politics that pushed Asri Haji Muda to resign as PAS president in 1982.

Meanwhile changes were also developing within UMNO. Dr Mahathir took over the leadership of the party from Hussein Onn in August 1981. As party chief and the country's prime minister Mahathir immediately initiated several policies, one of which was Islamisation. Recognising the potential of this Islamisation policy, Anwar Ibrahim, the influential leader of ABIM, decided to join UMNO in 1982 and was appointed the deputy minister in charge of Islamic affairs. Anwar is now heading the coordination committee for the implementation of the government's Islamic policies.

PAS leaders reacted to these government policies by demanding the creation of an Islamic state and accusing the government of not being serious and consistent in both its pronouncements and programme regarding Islam. With

the help of capable orators such as vice-president Haji Abdul Hadi Awang, PAS managed to hold regularly well-attended *ceramahs* in the Malay-dominated northern states. These speakers were sometimes so harsh in their criticisms of UMNO that it resulted in some PAS members refusing to be led by an UMNO imam in their prayers, in them viewing meat from an UMNO-slaughtered animal as haram, and finding marriage vows conducted by an UMNO member as unacceptable.

PAS succeeded in maintaining its support despite its failures in the 1978 and 1982 elections. However, the party is now concerned about the stand of ABIM which used to be sympathetic to them but which is now encouraging the government's Islamic efforts. PAS also has to face their former leader Asri's newly-formed Hizbul Muslimin party which, though small, could in an election split the pro-Islamic vote in favour of UMNO. It is these combined conditions that have lately induced prominent PAS figures, to become more vocal and active.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES CURRENT ANTARCTIC SYSTEM

BK150942 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations last week, the Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed, outlined Malaysia's stand on the issue of Antarctica. Now that the general debate is over in the UN General Assembly, the Antarctica question will be debated along with many other topics.

Last year, Malaysia had taken the initiative both at the nonaligned summit and at the 38th General Assembly of the United Nations to challenge the existing Antarctic system. Whatever may be the merits of that treaty, it is clearly in need of revision to reflect current nations' equity and [word indistinct]. That was the message in the Malaysian prime minister's address to the world community last week.

The Antarctic Treaty is too exclusive and also secretive. Last year, the General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution calling upon the United Nations secretary general to prepare a factual, comprehensive, and objective study of all aspects of Antarctica taking fully into account not only the existing Antarctic Treaty system but also other relevant factors. That report is to be discussed during the present session of the UN General Assembly.

Malaysia, along with all the developing nations of the world, will be keenly interested to see what further steps can be taken to turn the issue of Antarctica into a truly world or universal issue. If the matter is not pursued relentlessly, the big powers with their own vested interests would only be too willing to exploit Antarctica for their own ends.

Antarctica cannot be regarded as an icy continent thousands of miles away from anywhere. The world needs more resources, and Antarctica's marine and mineral resources are untouched. If past practice regarding resource exploitation is a criterion, the nations that have the sophisticated technology will simply move in and tap the abundance of minerals for their own purposes. This is exactly what Malaysia and the nonaligned nations are striving to prevent. The benefits of any resource exploitation in Antarctica should be

shared among all mankind. That is the new concept which the world body, the United Nations, must heed and impose rather than acquiesce in the old imperialistic theory that the first to arrive in an unoccupied region can taken over or possess that territory on behalf of his country.

Just as it has been accepted that the high seas belong to no nation in particular and that the exploitation of the sea bed outside the exclusive economic zones of coastal states must be regulated by an international sea bed authority, so too Antarctica's wealth must not be raised to a scramble akin to the gold rush era.

The equal system of Antarctica is very fragile and unspoiled. Also, Antarctica offers unrivaled opportunities for all types of scientific research that can benefit humanity at large. The Antarctic waters are noted for [words indistinct] protein-rich creatures. All these resources are of greater relevance and value to the poorer nations rather than the rich and powerful ones. The forthcoming UN debate on Antarctica must be regarded as being of vital importance to mankind as a whole.

CSO: 4200/65

VOPM ASSAILS SUSPENSION OF CITIZENSHIP

BK091020 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 7 Oct 84

["News report": "Citizenship of Many People Is Arbitrarily Suspended"]

[Text] Recently, the home affairs minister and deputy minister of the Kuala Lumpur reactionary government repeatedly issued statements on the suspension of the citizenship of Malaysians. Their statements have drawn public attention.

In mid-July, a source at the Home Affairs Ministry disclosed that as many as 17,097 Malaysian citizens had had their citizenship suspended since independence. The source disclosed that actions would be taken against those going to China without permission. To the present, the identity cards of 85 persons have been withheld for this reason.

In early August, Deputy Home Affairs Minister Radzi Ahmad made a concrete disclosure to newsmen by saying that the government was taking actions to suspend the citizenship of about 7,000 Malaysian citizens. Some of them have emigrated to foreign countries but still hold Malaysian passports. This being the case, their loyalty to the country is in doubt. Those visiting communist countries such as China will also have their citizenship suspended.

On 4 August, Musa Hitam, deputy prime minister and concurrently home affairs minister, made a mere amazing disclosure. He said that the number of persons having their citizenship suspended as announced by the government represented a conservative figure. In addition to the 7,000 persons, the government will probably suspend the citizenship of a number of Malaysians holding foreign citizenship. He added that there were still more documents on such cases.

Why are leaders of the reactionary government raising the issue now? We should deeply think it over. Suspending the citizenship of a citizen is a serious matter. Such a punishment should not arbitrarily be imposed unless there is strong evidence that they have betrayed the country and committed acts detrimental to people's interests. Besides, loyalty to the country cannot be equated with loyalty to the government. Expressing dissatisfaction with various illogical steps taken by the reactionary government cannot be considered as an act amounting to disloyalty to the country. However, the reactionary government has arbitrarily suspended the citizenship of the people of our country opposed to its illogical steps and those dissatisfied with it.

It is certainly true that some Malaysians have in recent years emigrated because they are disappointed and dissatisfied with the reactionary government's discriminatory and repressive policies. A member of parliament from an opposition party has correctly pointed out that the government's action to suspend the citizenship of those involved is not appropriate. He said that the government should instead conduct a comprehensive investigation of the origin of the issue and find ways to resolve it. He considered that the implementation of discriminatory and unjust policies in education and work was one of the reasons these people emigrated to foreign countries. It is worthy pointing out that people of various nationalities who have become citizens of the country deserve to enjoy wide basic rights in the political, economic, cultural, and other fields such as the right to participate in the state administration, economic industries, and cultural activities; the right to elect and be elected; freedom of speech, communication, printing, assembly, establishing social organizations, procession, demonstration, strike, and religion; and the rights of enjoying education, receiving jobs, lodging appeals to and charges against personnel of any state department or industry, including state leaders who have violated laws and are not responsible, and so on.

What is the attitude of the reactionary government in guaranteeing the basic rights of these people as provided for in the state Constitution? Facts show that not only does it not guarantee that all people enjoy their basic rights as provided for in the Constitution, but it has even violated and refused the basic rights of the people of various nationalities through various reactionary acts and regulations and illogical policies and measures.

The reactionary regime's discriminatory and repressive policies have certainly caused dissatisfaction among the people of various nationalities. This is the main reason why some of the citizens of our country have emigrated to foreign countries. The reactionary regime, however, has never asked itself to what extent it has made efforts to guarantee the basic rights of the citizens. On the contrary, it has arbitrarily deprived the dissatisfied people of their basic rights on the grounds that they are not loyal to the country. In fact, only a few Malaysians have emigrated to foreign countries; the absolute majority of the people of various nationalities dissatisfied with the reactionary government remain in the country. If the reactionary government's logic that anyone dissatisfied with the government depriving the people of their basic rights is a disloyal citizen whose citizenship must be suspended were to become a criterion, 90 percent of the people of various nationalities would be classified as disloyal citizens whose citizenship must be suspended.

The reactionary government should stop depriving the people of their basic rights and not arbitrarily suspend the citizenship of persons subjected to suffering resulting from its discriminatory and repressive policies. This is the most essential way of dealing with the issue.

Suspending the citizenship of people of our country visiting China through Hong Kong travel agencies is undoubtedly an act designed to exaggerate a small problem as they only violate immigration regulations. The reactionary government tightly restricts the people in our country from visiting China because it adopts a hostile policy toward socialist China. In accordance with the reactionary government's strict rules, application for special documents to visit China is also limited to those having special circumstances such as visiting relatives, receiving medical treatment and business engagement. Application to tour China is only open to those 65 years of age or over.

The reactionary government's arbitrary measures to restrict the people of our country from visiting China totally contradict the wishes of the people of our country. The peoples of the two countries, Malaysia and China, have long-term historical ties. The people of Chinese nationality in our country have historical ties with the Chinese people. Consequently, the people of our country have the right to freely visit China.

As a result of difficulties in obtaining permission to visit China, some tourists bent on visiting China resorted to other channels. Several tourism companies are reported to have allowed some tourists to enter China without special documents through the arrangement of several travel agents in Hong Kong. The local tourism companies were wooing elderly people to go to China in tour groups by demanding 300 to 500 ringgit per every tourist for special documents. However, the companies did not make the arrangements for their customers but instead arranged the entry of the tourists from Hong Kong or Macao to China through Hong Kong travel agents. Only a small part of the tourists had violated laws due to their great desire to visit China. The majority, however, were elderly people whose entry to China had been arranged by travel agents as they did not know clearly immigration rules. If they had had violated immigration laws, they would have been punished under the relevant laws. Their citizenship should not be suspended.

The loyalty of the majority of the people of Chinese nationality to the country should not be questioned. Although some people of Chinese nationality have visited China by violating immigration laws, their violation cannot be considered as testifying to their disloyalty to the country. The reactionary government's action to suspend their citizenship is motivated by racial prejudice and its hysterical commiephobia.

There are several hundred thousand so-called stateless and foreign residents in the country for a long period. They have on several occasions applied for citizenship through legal procedures. The reactionary government, however, has created many difficulties for them and is reluctant to accord the less qualified ones citizenship. Now, it has arbitrarily suspended the citizenship of many people. Its action is totally illogical.

CSO: 4243/23

'EMASCULATION' OF TRADE UNION MOVEMENT DESCRIBED

East Borneo THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW In English Sep 84 p 43

[Text]

IP Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad has once again warned the trade unions to disassociate themselves from "foreign domination" which he said, would disrupt their members and thus affect the country's production.

Mahathir, who was speaking at the highest assembly of the United Malays National Organisation, went on to say that Malaysian workers must not emulate their western counterparts who he said demanded high wages for less of the work, instead they must trade themselves on the labour and capital markets. Will are hard working and efficient.

Though there was a trade union movement in the country long before Malaysia's independence in 1957 its progress has been very slow. The country's 350 or more unions have a average 500-1000 members, just 12 per cent of the workforce. Moreover, the number of union members is shrinking.

Another weakness of the union movement is that union members are mainly under 30 years old, while the bulk of the workforce is in the 30-40 age group. In all but part of Malaysia are in the 30-40 age group. And there are more women in the 30-40 age group than in Malaysia. The largest group in the workforce is the 30-40 age group. The unions, now Malaysian workers' union, are in fact unemployed, foreign transnational companies.

Malaysian unions have rarely been able to conduct successful strikes and walkouts. A recent example is how the government has been able to control a strike during a strike for better wages in October 1983 by Malaysian Airlines. A strike by the Malaysian Airlines DC10s were grounded. A labour union leader and sympathy about the Airlines report workers grounded another Malaysian DC10.

The government's response was to send in a truck load of the Federal Reserve Unit (FRU) — nicknamed "The Rough Use". Clashes broke out between the FRU and the workers who refused to go back to work as ordered. At the end of the day, a handful of workers leaders were arrested and charged under the controversial Internal Security Act (ISA).

The trade union movement is also constrained by Malaysian law. The Statute (Amendment) Act 1982 gives the Registrar of Trade Unions sweeping powers to cancel, suspend or even refuse registration to trade unions. The secretary-general of the Malaysian Trade Union Congress, the largest private sector trade union, graduated, V. S. S. said that although the de-registration powers have never been used, they are an ever present threat, hindering workers from taking action to defend their interests. S. S. also accused the deputy minister of labour and manpower, Limak Zakaria Abdul Rahman, of "trying to limit the labour movement by urging the Malays to form their own exclusive unions."

Mahathir prefers the Japanese-style "in house" or company unions for all industries in Malaysia, in line with his Look East policy. According to a recent government report company unions made up almost half of all unions by the end of 1982, accounting for about 25 per cent of total union membership. Most are found in the public sector but there are few in private sector company unions.

The deliberate emasculation of the trade union movement, argues a for the ordinary Malaysian. Malaysia has the worst income distribution pattern in Asia. The poorest 20 per cent of the people have only three per cent of the national income. The dismemberment of the trade union movement will mean increased deprivation for the ordinary workers of Malaysia.

SOLUTION FOR NATURAL RUBBER INDUSTRY SOUGHT

East Burnham THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Oct 84 p 55

[Article by Charles Fernandez]

[Text]

IF The Malaysian government is now faced with the unenviable dilemma of adopting a coherent strategy to breathe new life into the sagging rubber industry. This follows differences of opinion among the eight person task force which compiled the recent report "The Malaysian Natural Rubber Industry - 1983 to 2000."

Malaysia could increase its rubber production by 63 per cent in the next two decades, says the report. Productivity in the smallholding sector could be raised by 50 per cent and that of the estate sector by 59 per cent through improved technology and replanting. The report also states that there are some 2.8m hectares of land in peninsular Malaysia suitable for rubber planting.

At the recent Asean, Japan and Australia symposium in Kuala Lumpur Prime Minister Mahathir said that Malaysia has ambitions of becoming the biggest producer of rubber tyres in the world. The one-day symposium, "Breaking down the Barriers," was jointly-organised by *The Australian Financial Review*, *The Nihon Keizai Shimbun* and Malaysia's *Business Times*. Among other things, it discussed tariff protection and political, social and financial barriers.

Mahathir hit out at Australia and Japan for favouring protectionism, something he regarded as "strange sentiments" since both countries were affected by American and European protectionism. "One would like to think that being victims of protectionism, both would sympathise with the Asean countries' infantile steps

towards exporting manufactured goods. But the fact is protectionism is very strong, especially in Japan," he said.

Although the Malaysian Rubber Products Manufacturers Association (MRPMA) feels that the export potential of Malaysia's tyres would be improved by the task force's package of incentives, there is much uncertainty about future demands of the rubber tyre, the major end-user of natural rubber. The latest recession no doubt placed a question mark over the future of rubber, as did rapidly rising petrol prices and falling automobile production. Today, car output is riding high again, spurred on by the American economic recovery. The demand for rubber is thus gaining momentum.

The crucial question for the future of the rubber industry is "will oil prices go up again?" If they do, demand for cars and for tyres will fall. It may be this factor that has led Malaysia's planners to "freeze" the expansion of rubber estate land, and to pin their hopes instead on cocoa and palm oil.

The export task force apparently took a different view. Rubber, it seems to be saying, has a bright future, and production should be expanded both through improved technology and increased acreage.

However, in the new agricultural policy (NAP) announced in January, rubber has been given a rather low priority compared with other crops. The NAP envisages a significant increase in estate land for palm oil and cocoa; for rubber, acreage will not be increased. Any increase in production would have to come from increased

productivity from existing acreage. The use of improved technology and mechanisation would be the main thrust in achieving efficient production, with research also geared towards greater usage of rubber.

The NAP reasoned that although rubber is still the major foreign currency earner, it is currently experiencing labour shortage, slow replanting and low productivity. The message of the new policy seems to be that rubber is not such a profitable crop anymore, and it would be better to use agricultural land for other crops which yield a better commercial return.

Nevertheless, Malaysia is likely to encourage the planting of rubber not only for its latex but also for commercial rubberwood. As the task force report states, it is now known that rubberwood can be a useful material for pulp for paper production.

The prospect of turning rubberwood into pulp is quite promising. Peninsular Malaysia alone imported about \$517m worth of paper products in 1981. It is estimated that 60,000 hectares of rubber trees will be planted a year, giving about 6.45m tonnes of green timber annually. Currently, 5.02m tonnes are being used, mainly for fuel wood (3.03m tonnes), charcoal (1.58m tonnes), sawn timber, blockboards and chips (380,000 tonnes) and logs (28,700 tonnes).

It is recognised that for furniture making and for building materials, rubberwood is equivalent to other medium hardwoods but despite this, a major portion of available rubberwood is

used for a low return of energy production.

According to the report, more than 20 mills are now processing rubberwood logs in Peninsular Malaysia while a number of unregistered mills are also operating to meet the demand of sawn timber locally and overseas for making products like furniture, panelling and parquet flooring. Singapore, Japan, South Korea and Thailand are the main importers of these products.

Despite this good report, Paul Leong, the primary industries minister, says that labour shortage was about 6.3 per cent at the end of 1983, based on a recent survey carried out by the Malaysian Rubber Producers Council on 432 estates. Estates have indicated that they would require more weeders, rubber tappers, oil palm harvesters and some other categories of agricultural labour. Leong said that research and development was under way to find effective labour-saving technology to overcome the long-term problem of labour shortage.

Leong also spoke of the large tracts of land which were still available for rubber cultivation in the peninsula. Almost 1.6m hectares are suitable only for rubber, while a further 1.2m hectares are areas where rubber would have to compete with palm oil and other crops.

Although the economic returns from oil palm and cocoa are superior to those offered for rubber, on large tracts which are only suitable for rubber, returns of 18 to 21 per cent are sufficient to warrant new areas to be opened up.

PLANS TO CHANGE LANGUAGE OF CHINESE SCHOOL SONGS, BADGES DENIED

School Songs, Badges

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 18 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Datin Paduka Rosemary Chong, deputy minister of education, yesterday issued a statement asserting that the government has no plan to change the language of Chinese school songs and badges.

She said: "Deputy Information Minister Datuk Chan Siang Sun has not carefully read the general order issued by the chief inspector of the Pahang State Department of Education and has misinterpreted the relevant instruction, as well as misled the public purporting that only the national language [Malay] should be used in Chinese school songs and badges."

Datin Rosemary pointed out that based on the original intention of the said circular order, only newly-opened schools would be required to apply to and get the approval of the Bureau of Education for composing their songs and designing their badges.

She stressed again that the existing school songs and badges of all Chinese schools throughout the country can continue to be applied as usual and that school principals need not worry about this issue.

Deputy Information Minister's Clarification

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 19 Aug 84 p 6

[Text] Datuk Chan Siang Sun, deputy information minister, has rebutted the criticism leveled against him by Deputy Education Minister Datin Paduka Rosemary Chong. Datin Rosemary had blamed Datuk Chan for not having carefully read the general order issued by the chief inspector of the Pahang State Department of Education and had therefore misled the masses.

Datuk Chan said: "If it were much ado about nothing, Datin Rosemary should issue a clarification instead of saying that I have misled the public."

Datuk Chan made this rebuttal at a press conference he held at his office yesterday.

He told reporters that while touring various cities in Pahang and talking with members of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], he was informed of the existence of such a circular by some Chinese school principals and trustees. The government order said that all mainstream schools in Pahang State, including private schools, must henceforth adopt the national language in composing their school songs or designing their school badges.

Datuk Chan said: "Datin Rosemary blamed me for misinterpreting the original meaning of the circular concerned, but the circular did not mention newly-opened schools. It merely referred to school songs to be composed in the future."

He quoted Datin Rosemary as having said that the Education Ministry has no plan to change the language of the songs and badges used by existing Chinese schools. Yet, he continued, Article 2 (2) of the circular order stipulates clearly that "the lyrics of a school song must be in the national language."

He added: "In addition, among those affected are schools which already have their school songs but which are not yet officially approved by the proper authorities."

Datuk Chan also pointed out that according to the same article in the circular order, only the national language can be used in school badges.

He indicated that 2 days ago he already sent an official to hand a letter over to Deputy Education Minister Datin Paduka Rosemary Chong, requesting her to issue a clarification in order to avoid any misunderstanding. However, he added, he did not anticipate that Datin Rosemary criticized him for having "misled the masses."

Datuk Chan asserted that if the Education Bureau firmly rule that from now on all mainstream schools in Pahang State, which still have no school songs, must use the national language in composing their school songs, this would violate the spirit of the Report of the Education Executive Commission of the Cabinet (1979).

In his opinion, the first proposal of the said report pointed out that "under the present circumstances, the teaching medium in the primary school level should continue to use three kinds of languages."

"If Chinese primary schools are permitted to use Chinese as a teaching medium, why should newly-opened Chinese primary schools, or other Chinese primary schools which still do not have their school songs, use the national language in composing their songs?" Datuk Chan Siang Sun concluded.

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CSO: 4205/1

LEADERS EXCHANGE CHARGES ON CHINESE COMMUNITY'S POSITION

Chinese Community's Position Weakened

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 20 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Datuk Neo Yee Pan, acting president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], pointed out that Datuk Lim Keng Yaik cannot escape or shirk from his responsibility of having eroded the position of the Chinese community.

He said that in the early 1970's, Datuk Lim Keng Yaik--through his so-called reform movement--attempted to wrest MCA's leadership but in vain, which caused the party's weakening and dissension, led to the loss of its two ministerial posts of finance and trade and industry and seriously jeopardized the position of Chinese society.

Datuk Neo made this counterattack against Datuk Lim while officiating at the opening ceremony of an MCA-organized seminar in Kuala Lumpur today.

A few days earlier, Datuk Lim had criticized that the present MCA is no longer "half dead, but already dead."

Datuk Neo pointed out further that when the National Front was formed in 1974, the representation of MCA and Chinese society was split and weakened and even considerably curtailed.

He said: "That was the result of indiscriminately fooling around with emotionalism."

He pointed out that at the time Datuk Lim Keng Yaik also took part in the formulation of MCA's present statutes.

He said: "When Datuk Lim cannot get what he wants, he invariably resorts to criticism and attacks, true to his style. Does he believe that his multiracial GERAKAN party [Malaysian People's Movement] can truly fight for the rights and interests of the Chinese community, at a time when the Malay-based United Malays National Organization [UMNO] continues to function as a [powerful] uniracial political party? Such thinking is a bit too naive!

"No doubt that ever since 1970 the political status of Chinese society in Malaysia has been undergoing an erosion. Anybody with a sound mind cannot deny this fact. However, the question is how can such a phenomenon have come about? Is it the MCA's fault? Or is it because the complex political outlook of Chinese society, along with its philosophic theory on self-survival, which has caused the disarray and dissension of the Chinese community?

"At a time when the political status of Chinese society is being eroded, where is Datuk Lim Keng Yaik after all? Besides, his party is represented in the government.

"I admit that since 1979 the position of the Chinese has also been weakened. Only nitwits can deny this fact. Yet, Lim Keng Yaik has blamed the MCA for this. How can?"

Datuk Neo Yee Pan pointed out that one of the reasons for the erosion of the Chinese status is the dissension of Chinese political parties. If all of them can get united, the situation will be entirely different. That is why Datuk Neo has appealed to all concerned that Chinese political parties should unite under one banner.

In contrast, Datuk Neo said, the UMNO can become strong and powerful because it has one uniform line. He pointed out that in the special conditions of our country, the most basic problem is: who represents the Chinese?

"Talking about the UMNO and the Malaysian Indian Congress [MIC] reminds us of the Malay and Indian nationalities, but what about MCA?" Datuk Neo said.

Lim Keng Yaik's Reaction

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 27 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The dispute between the MCA and the GERAKAN has escalated. The latter's president, Datuk Lim Keng Yaik, today refuted the criticism of Datuk Neo Yee Pan, MCA's acting president.

Earlier, Datuk Neo had criticized Dr Lim for leading a reform movement within the MCA in the 1970's, which led to MCA's loss of two cabinet posts, namely, the ministership of finance and trade and industry.

Datuk Dr Lim explained that MCA's minister of trade and industry portfolio was taken over by the Council for State Action in the wake of the "13 May Incident" in 1969 and subsequently handed down to Johari. The finance minister portfolio was lost by MCA because its own minister Tun Tan Siew Sin was forced to resign due to an infighting within the said party.

Datuk Lim made these remarks in a news conference after having opened a GERAKAN economic conference today.

Commenting on Datuk Neo's criticism to the effect that Datuk Lim took part in the movement to revise MCA's constitution which would confer overly great powers to the party president, he [Datuk Lim] said that he was simply not a delegate to the special conference for the amendment of MCA's statutes.

He said: "I became an MCA member in 1968, and an election candidate the following year. We had no powers whatsoever at that time.

"In April 1971 Tun Tan Siew Sin invited a number of us members, including a party cadre department in Perak State known as Hin Han Society, to come out and reform the party, as we were faced with the problem of bestowing too much powers to the party president.

"In 1973 we launched a reform movement, and among the manifesto were a revision of the party constitution, provisions for a democratic, collective leadership, a guarantee for a sound party organization and an effective implementation of the party's policies."

Datuk Dr Lim said that at the time he strongly felt that if MCA was not reformed, it was not worth saving.

"The result was that I was expelled from party membership on 1 June, 1973 while Datuk Leong Khee Seong had suffered the same fate in April 1972. We had no connection at all with the revision of party constitution."

He explained that one of the reasons for his expulsion was his refusal to take back his word, a criticism that "the MCA was wasting too much time and energy for an internal struggle for power, instead of fighting for the benefits of Chinese society."

He affirmed that MCA's infighting this time has disappointed the Chinese and that Chinese society also believes this party can no longer represent the Chinese people. In his view, MCA's biggest mistake is claiming that only MCA can represent the Chinese.

"They use the word 'Chinese' to play around the sentiments of the Chinese nationals but have never pushed forward Chinese society's democratic awareness to safeguard Chinese interest in Malaysia," Datuk Lim said.

He also held that the current power struggle within MCA has given the public a chance to compare the respective statutes of the MCA, GERAKAN and UMNO and to assess whether MCA's organization can truly reflect the people's demands toward democratic rights and interests.

He said that as MCA has disappointed the people, GERAKAN has offered itself as another choice for Chinese society.

"If the MCA performed well, we would never have an opportunity to represent the Chinese. Today's conditions in Chinese society have been created by MCA,

not by GERAKAN. Now that MCA is not playing its role, then let us do it."

He said that whenever MCA criticizes the Chinese nationals as disunited, it puts the blame on Chinese society. "Their attitude has always been like that. They would not admit they were at fault. They refused to make a self-examination to find out whether or not it was due to their fault that the Chinese nationals are now in such a sad plight. They could only say that 'you are wrong, you must reform, but we are not at fault,'" Datuk Lim said.

Talking about GERAKAN's effort to strive for Chinese society's benefit along the line of the Malaysian people, he said that this *modus operandi* is more easily acceptable to the UMNO-dominated government.

"The MCA said I am naive on the ground that as long as the UMNO remains a uniracial political party, the MCA should maintain the same form. I said this is baloney, this is self-deception. It is the MCA that is naive, not me," Datuk Lim argued.

He added that the MCA has existed for 35 years and yet it is still so naive as not to see that it can never achieve its goals by adopting a race-based attitude. On the contrary, it can only create disgust.

He cited the Penang-Wellesley Bridge as an example. By following the line of the Malaysian people, the GERAKAN has used the development of northern Malaysia as a point of departure, thereby enabling 75 percent of the Penang Chinese to receive benefit.

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CSO: 4205/1

VOMD WELCOMES UNDERGROUND TAMIL MAGAZINE

BK200902 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 15 Oct 84

["News report": "First Issue of PEOPLE'S HOPE, an Underground Tamil-Language Magazine"]

[Text] An underground Tamil-language publication, PEOPLE'S HOPE, was issued last May. This represents an encouraging new effort by democratic, patriotic Indian figures in our country to push forward a democratic, patriotic united front. In its first issue, PEOPLE'S HOPE publishes a long editorial entitled "To Beloved Readers," facts on the 1 May International Labor Day, and a serial article recounting the traditional struggle of Indian workers in our country.

The editorial of the first issue of PEOPLE'S HOPE points out that the birth of the magazine was a new result and further development of the democratic, patriotic movement of all Malayan people of all nationalities, particularly Indians. It recalls the events of the late 19th and early 20th centuries when the British colonialists deceived large numbers of poor peasants in India into coming to Malaya under contract or foreman systems to open rubber plantations, build public roads and railways, and clean up cities. Recalling the bitterness of Indian workers, it points out a public saying that every railway track has been stained with the blood and sweat of Indian workers and that Indian bodies have [word indistinct] every rubber tree. This is not an exaggeration. Today, the Indians in our country are descendants of Indian workers and Indians of various walks of life and occupations. With the passage of time, they have considered Malaya as their own country and formed a nationality in our country. They have also worked hard for the social, political, and economic development of Malaya. Engaging in the same occupations, life, and struggle, their interests are closely related to those of other nationalities in Malaya.

In short, the editorial recounts the real history of the struggle of Indian workers in our country who were united with their fellow countrymen of other nationalities against exploitation and oppression by the British colonialists and big capitalists after 1930. In addition, it recounts the great contributions made by Indian estate workers and other workers in cities in efforts to fight for independence and for the democratic rights of the people.

On the suffering and unequal position of the Indians in the last 25 years following our country's independence, the editorial of the first issue of PEOPLE'S HOPE points out that the condition of estate workers has not undergone any great changes. In 1983, the poverty rate of estate workers increased to 54.6 percent. The unemployment rate among the Indians is the highest in Malaya. Many of Tamil-language schools have been or will be closed. As many as 250,000 Indians, who were born and are growing up in Malaya, have been deprived of their citizenship rights. To the present, they are still considered stateless people. Indian workers in the Selancar IV [Roman four] estate belonging to the Federal Land Development Authority are oppressed as slaves in a living hell.

From bitter experience, true Indian workers and intellectuals have concluded that the so-called New Economic Policy designed to eradicate poverty and restructure society has in fact intensified the poverty of the Indians. The editorial explains that the objective of PEOPLE'S HOPE is to convey common desires and to appeal to the Indians who want to free themselves from poverty, slavery, and discrimination. PEOPLE'S HOPE will render its service for pushing forward the democratic and patriotic movement and develop a broadly-based united front.

The editorial states: All of us must strive to strengthen national unity and reconciliation. The Indians, as the third largest nationality in our country, represent an important force. Our appeal is: Unite We, the Indian people of various strata, must be united. We must unite with our fellow countryman of other nationalities and organize in various forms. Only by these efforts can we achieve our beautiful aspirations to destroy completely the cannibalistic secret social system, to establish a new happy and prosperous society, and to be masters in the country.

CSO: 4213/23

BRIEFS

RESPONSE TO MAHATHIR'S UN SPEECH--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's recent address at the UN General Assembly is continuing to generate interest especially among Third World delegates. Many are reported to have welcomed the prime minister's statement on Islamic resurgence and the big power manipulation to resolve global economic and political problems. According to a member of the Malaysian delegation to the current session, Mr Alias Ali, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir was the only government leader who was patient on Islamic resurgence. So far none of the Arab countries have brought up the matter at the current session. Mr Alias, who is also the member of Parliament for Ulu Terengganu, told BERNAMA [National News Agency] that many delegates are impressed by Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's precise and logical analogies made during his speech. The current session of the General Assembly ends in December. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4200/65

INDEPENDENCE PARTY FORMS PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 27 Sep 84 p 6

[Text]

NZPA-AFP Noumea

The main pro-independence party on New Caledonia, the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (F.L.N.K.S.), by deciding to create a Kanak provisional government has in effect broken off dialogue with France, which governs the territory.

This body says that it will govern a new sovereign state called "The Democratic Socialist Kanak Republic."

The Kanak provisional government is expected to be installed in Noumea on December 1, and will consist of a Prime Minister and six ministers.

There are 35,000 Kanaks (Melanesians) and 30,000 Europeans, mainly French, in the territory's population of 100,000. The rest are Asians.

The F.L.N.K.S., which ended a three-day congress at Noumea on Monday, demanded "immediate and total independence," and agreed to set up parallel state institutions and authorities.

The congress decided to form its own 37-member assembly on November 11, with deputies electing a provisional government on

November 24.

This is in defiance of the territory's recent status approved by the French Assembly in May, which envisages a referendum on self-determination in 1988.

The F.L.N.K.S. considers that the date of 1988 is "too far away", and that the French President, Mr Francois Mitterrand, "has not kept the promises that he made earlier on giving independence to New Caledonia."

The Front's leaders emphasized their aim was to "prevent elections" to the New Caledonian Regional Assembly scheduled in the next few weeks.

Eloi Machoro, secretary general of the Caledonian Union (UC), one of the main elements in the Kanak front, said, "There will be no elections."

The F.L.N.K.S., representing four independence movements, replaces their old "Independent Front," but with the absence of the fifth party, the "Kanak Socialist Liberation Party."

Mr Machoro referred to the latter as a "traitor" because it was willing to participate in the forthcoming Territorial Assembly elections.

CSO: 4200/72

CAVITE GOVERNOR REASSURES PUBLIC ON PROJECTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Sep 84 p 12

[Article by Del Villanueva]

[Text]

TRECE MARTIRES CITY — Infrastructure projects in the province will continue to be implemented in spite of the high cost of construction materials and the slice in government funds.

Cavite Gov. Johnny Remulla made this remark before local mayors and barangay officials to allay public apprehension about the cancellation or stoppage of public works on account of the skyrocketing costs.

He told the local officials that the province is still lucky because despite of tight monetary situation, it can still afford to pursue several infrastructure projects for the benefit of the masses.

"We owe this to the President and Prime Minister Cesar Virata who are always on hand to support the provincial government in all its undertakings to promote the socio-economic growth of the province," he said.

The governor said that two major road projects, the Noveleta-Cavite City road and Tejero-Gen. Trias road which have been the object of complaints from both motorists and residents because of its dilapidated condition are now being concreted.

The Noveleta-Cavite City road has a total cost of P6.2 million. The first phase of the project costing P1.7 million starting from San

Rafael, Noveleta up to the historic Calero Bridge is now being paved with cement.

The road construction project is under the supervision of the local office of the Ministry of Public Works and Highways under Engr. Jose Limeta.

Remulla also said that the concreting of the 3.5-kilometer provincial road in Tejero has a total outlay of P4 million including the restoration of fences of several residents affected by the road widening.

The project is being undertaken by the provincial engineer's office in coordination with the rural road program of the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development.

OFFICIALS SEE NPA STRATEGIC STALEMATE WITHIN TWO YEARS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 14 Sep 84 p 9

[Article by Abby Tan: "Another Vietnam?"]

[Text] Is the communist New Peoples' Army (NPA) poised to challenge the Philippine Government in an overt conventional war in three to five years...? Are we looking at the spectre of another Vietnam..."

These are some of the urgent, disturbing questions being asked by the Philippines' ally, the United States and some Philippine Government officials themselves. The US has strategic interests in the Philippines where it maintains two military bases and looks at the NPA growth with concern.

The Philippines has the distinction of being the only South-East Asian country where insurgency is growing rather than lessening.

Western diplomats in Manila estimate the NPA's strength to be between 10,000 to 15,000 armed regulars, which is double the estimates of two years ago. The NPA now operates in over 45 'guerilla fronts' covering 53 of the country's 73 provinces.

The Defence Minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, says there are indicators that the NPA has reached the strategic "unrelenting determination" to achieve a state of strategic stalemate--ie, the stage when the dissidents and the Government have a balance of forces and open conventional warfare ensues.

Philippine newspapers carry almost daily reports of clashes between Government troops and the NPA. The latter has started moving in bands of 200 to 300 guerillas, sometimes over-running remote towns.

The insurgency is the subject of a US congressional hearing this month, based on research done by congressional workers and State Department officials who have been making frequent trips to the Philippines this year.

More recent visitors to the Philippines were Admiral William Crowe, chief of the US Pacific Command and John Monjo, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs. US Embassy sources say the officials were depressed on seeing the situation.

Democrat representative Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House foreign affairs subcommittee on Asian and Pacific affairs, in an article published in the New York Times in August, described the Philippines as resembling Vietnam in the 1950s.

But a Manila-based diplomat expresses the fear that the situation is much more serious than viewed by Washington. There is a feeling among some of his colleagues that the state of strategic stalemate could be reached within two years in northern and eastern Mindanao, where NPA growth has been fastest.

What is significant about the Philippine insurgency is that it is entirely home-grown, with no outside help from any country. The NPA arms itself by ambushing the military.

Mr Enrile has said the guerillas could reach the strategic stalemate stage "if the Government is not doing anything. But we are doing something."

But observers say they see no evidence of any Government efforts in counter-insurgency.

The insurgency has been largely fuelled by the Philippines' worsening economic problems over the last decade. Military abuses are a big factor in NPA growth. It is not uncommon to hear governors and mayors saying: "We are not afraid of the NPA, we are afraid of the military."

Corollary to these problems is the breakdown of local government. Many governors and mayors neglect remote areas because of the insurgents or the military. So the communists come in as a result of their negligence.

One observer visiting a remote town in Negros recounts that bands of NPAs were moving about freely in daylight, with the residents accepting this as a fact of life. And where was the mayor...? He was at the Los Angeles Olympics.

Many join the NPA not for ideological reasons but because they felt deprived, alienated or disaffected. The hard edge of ideology is not to be discounted, however. But the ideology does not seem to extend down to the average follower, most analysts agree.

The NPA was formed in 1970, with a rag-tag band of 300 guerillas, two years after the Communist Party was born in the tumult of China's Cultural Revolution. The leaders of both the CPP and NPA are middle and upper-middle class Filipinos, many from the academe, enchanted by Maoism.

China supported the CPP initially but abandoned them after the PCP bungled two arms-smuggling attempts in 1972 and 1974.

The CPP has managed to consolidate itself after a 10-year ideological crisis. Following the Washington-Peking detente, the CPP leaders could not decide whether to remain Maoist or chart an independent course.

The CPP's Maoist hardliners--Rafael Baylosis, the secretary-general and central committee member Edgar Jobson (killed in a shootout by troops two years ago)--were finally persuaded by the current chairman, Rodolfo Salas, to detach the party from strict Maoism.

What amazes analysts is that the party survived the arrests of its founding chairman, Jose Maria Sison, along with Jose Luneta and Saturnino Ocampo, between 1976 and 1977. New leaders emerged to take over immediately. Its second and third echelon leaders have been described as even more radical and daring.

Saturnino Ocampo, who was let out of jail for one day last month to meet journalists, said that NPA's success could be attributed to its sophisticated system of organisation and political work.

He said: "Somehow they have been able to hit on a particular formula to expand to new territory and consolidate, notwithstanding the armed forces."

Mr Ocampo said the NPA could build up its strength to 25,000 regulars and thus will be ready for stalemate in five years.

The deep penetration of the NPA and the sympathy Filipinos in remote areas have for them will make counter-insurgency difficult.

The Marcos Government does not seem to be making much effort to reverse the trend. One Western analyst observes: "This society is oriented to pleasing the higher-ups, who may not know what is going on--they are just being fed the good news. The assumption is that as long as you can contain or control, the higher-ups don't have to know."

The US approach to President Marcos has been low key and indirect, usually in the form of pressure for economic reforms attached to loans. US diplomats say they see signs that Filipino officials are beginning to realise the seriousness of the threat.

Analysts watch with interest the recent establishment in Manila of at least two Basic Christian Communities (BCC), a Latin American import that had been flourishing in Mindanao for years. Activist priests and nuns preach the theology of liberation in the BCC.

Like the South American experience, the Filipino communists get a helping hand from the fighting priests and nuns against a common enemy.

The problems are all too apparent. Whether the Philippine Government has the will and the political organisation to combat a worsening threat remains to be seen.

CSO: 4200/41

CORDILLERAS NATIVES, GOVERNMENT POLICY COLLIDE

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 22 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Bontoc, Mt Province--There was a time when people of the Cordillera uplands quickly solved their housing problem by simply going to the lush forests and cutting down the required number of trees that would furnish the needed shelter.

In those times, too, the uplanders considered the forests and virtually the entire mountain range as their "communal property" because the land was settled by their ancestors in centuries past.

Today, such an uplander concept of his environment, specially the forests, collides sharply with policies adopted by the national government and the clash is causing much social discontent among the residents of the Cordillera highlands.

Particularly galling to the ethnic tribes of the North Luzon uplands is the public forest policy of the Ministry of Natural Resources which, in the case of the Cordilleras, covers almost all of the forested lands.

Such a policy coverage is resented because the tribal minorities consider the forests "ancestral grounds" and "communal forests," meaning they have a prior right which the policy outrightly ignores.

Under the policy, tribal minorities are prohibited from entering the forests to cut trees or gather forestry products for home consumption. Only those authorized by the ministry's Bureau of Forest Development can do so and in some instances, among the authorized are "outsiders" or non-natives of the Cordilleras.

One of the leading examples is the complaint formally filed by organized residents of this province against the granting of forest concessions or timber licenses to persons and entities from the lowlands.

Complainants claim that while they have historic rights to the forests, they have been shut out from availing themselves of its products and other benefits.

Residents of Besau and Sagada towns of this province, who are all Igorots, alleged that the forests in their respective areas were due to their communal efforts.

They recalled that in the early 1960s their part of the Cordillera mountains was bald. On their own initiative, they planted trees on it, such that it has again become a lush forest.

However, the public forest policy of the government prevents them from reaping the benefits of their reforestation effort.

One immediate result of the minorities being denied access to the forest which they consider as ancestral grounds is a worsening of the housing situation in the Cordilleras, according to the tribal leaders.

To back up such a claim, they cited an official report from the regional arm of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) that the housing backlog in the North Luzon uplands is becoming serious.

In 1982, NEDA counted at 12,059 the housing unit shortage in Benguet. It projected the shortage to increase to 30,173 units by 1987. In the case of this province, its shortage will hit the 15,000 units mark two years from today.

Government forest personnel in the Cordillera provinces tend to sympathize with the plight of the tribal minorities, but cannot do anything about it since they are "following orders from above."

Such personnel are the ones who go after tribals for cutting trees or gathering forest products. Those caught are haled before the municipal court for violation of the public forest laws.

The only solution, according to some officials, is to "socialize" present forest laws so that the people who have been living in the forest zones for generations are not "made to feel like unwanted strangers in their own land."--DEPTH-news.

CSO: 4200/41

DAILY EXAMINES RECENT EVIDENCE OF OPPOSITION SPLIT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 22 Sep 84 pp 1, 8

[Interviews by Noel Albano, Jun Concepcion and Benjie Guevarra]

[Text] Cracks appeared on the facade of unity of the Philippine Opposition yesterday, the 12th anniversary of the imposition of martial law which the administration has declared a National Day of Thanksgiving but which the Opposition insists is a Day of Sorrow.

The division was as wide as the hundred feet or so that divided two groups--one labelled as the "Traditional Opposition" and the other the "Cause-oriented Opposition"--as they held their separate rallies at Manila's Liwasang Bonifacio.

But the spectacle of a divided Opposition did not alter the commonality of their message--"dismantle the US-Marcos dictatorship."

The fissures in Opposition unity first became noticeable in the preparations for yesterday's mass actions with two distinct groups launching their marches from separate assembly points, despite the fact that both groups were to converge on Liwasang Bonifacio.

The split became marked at the Liwasan itself when one group of 10,000--later swelling to 30,000--under the banners of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban) and the Alliance of Multi-Sectoral Associations (AMA) did not join a bigger group--about 50,000--under the umbrella of the "cause-oriented" Coalition of Organizations for the Realization of Democracy (CORD), which made the Liwasan a jump-off point for a tension-filled march to and vigil at Mendiola bridge near Malacanang Palace. Traditional oppositionists led by former Sen Salvador Laurel opted to stay behind to avoid the possibility of violence at Mendiola.

When the CORD group marched off, the UNIDO-PDP/Laban-AMA group stayed put and went on with their program at the footsteps of the Post Office building.

Attempts by leaders of both camps scarcely succeeded in patching up the rift, and Assemblyman Aquilino Pimentel (PDP/Laban-Cagayan de Oro) lamented that "We could be falling into the trap of President Marcos to divide the Opposition."

CORD chief Agapito "Butz" Aquino tried to make light of the split, saying the demonstrators who stayed with the UNIDO-PDP/Laban-AMA group were "militant" and those who joined CORD in the march to Mendiola were "more militant." He said he respected the other group's decision and added that both groups were assailing a common enemy through different tactics.

But UP student leader Leandro Alejandro, CORD secretary-general, was more blunt. He accused the "traditional Opposition" of setting conditions for joint activities "that we cannot accept," such as the conditions that they abide by the prepared program of activities and that they refrain from carrying anything red.

On the Mendiola march, the Traditional Opposition was directly opposed to the "cause-oriented" group. Its leaders saw no point in going to Mendiola where they believed unnecessary violence could erupt at the expense of innocent people.

Citing the death of 12 demonstrators during last year's siege of Mendiola, UNIDO president Salvador Laurel said there was no sense in "wasting the lives of civilians just to occupy the bridge." He also dismissed talk of a rift with CORD.

MP Mel Lopez and UNIDO secretary-general Rene Espina also dismissed reports that the division weakened the Opposition drive to topple the Marcos regime. They also denied they ever told CORD leaders they could join the UNIDO-led rally provided they don't carry anything red.

"We only told them to follow our program of activities since they didn't send a representative during a meeting regarding this rally two weeks ago," said Joey Lina, AMA secretary-general.

"It was but natural for us to ask them to follow our program," chorused UNIDO deputy secretary-general Lito Banayo, "since we were the ones who applied for a permit for this rally." Banayo claimed CORD should have given in to them at Liwasang Bonifacio since they were already sponsoring a rally at Mendiola.

But MP Pimentel, though abiding by his party's decision to stay at Liwasang Bonifacio, said he personally believed they should have gone to Mendiola with the CORD demonstrators.

"Let us just hope the split is not a permanent one," he said.

Pimentel also disclosed that Butz Aquino and Doy Laurel had met until midnight the other night in search of a common position on whether or not to march to Mendiola, but that the talks ended in a deadlock.

The hope that the rift would not be permanent was also aired by Cory Aquino, wife of the slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino, Jr, and Butz's sister-in-law. She stated these were just different strategies for attacking a common enemy.

In her brief speech at Lisawang Bonifacio before the moderates, Cory appealed for a continuation of the fight for democracy, human rights and freedom for which her husband died.

A number of assemblymen and traditional oppositionists who addressed the moderate group also expressed sadness over the split.

Former Senator Eva Estarda Kalaw, who heads one wing of the Liberal Party, said her group is for a peaceful opposition to Marcos while the other group has opted, she said, for a confrontation.

"We may differ in strategy but we have a common objective of ousting Marcos from government," she said.

Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo meanwhile, said there is nothing wrong with the difference in tactics between the moderate and the radical opposition because they have the same goal.

He also said there is no weakening of the opposition to the Marcos regime.

Political parties like the Nationalista and Liberal parties and the radical group are merely strengthening their forces and the difference in strategies indicate the opposition groups are not regimented, Rodrigo said.

Only Mercado, meanwhile, said the split in the Opposition ranks was unfortunate. He said opposition leaders should show more tolerance for each other's positions. Personalities in the Opposition should be moderated, Mercado said.

Despite the apparent show of disunity, those who trooped to the Liwasang rally expressed a common reason for attending it: To call for the dismantling of the "US-Marcos dictatorship."

Following is how some of them individually expressed it:

Sister Mariani Dimaranan, head of the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines: "It's rather obvious...I should be here with the people in fighting the US-Marcos dictatorship which has plagued the country for the past 12 years."

Rolando Maranan, a paint factory worker: "This is the only way that can hasten the end of our economic problems."

Carlos Fernandez, MP (Unido-Manila): "What thanksgiving is Marcos talking about? Thanksgiving for our hardships? This is an effective forum for us to air our protest."

CSO: 4200/41

LABOR MINISTER DEFENDS 70-MILLION (P70) INVESTMENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 22 Sep 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] Labor Minister Blas Ople defended as a sound investment yesterday the recent purchase for P70 million by the ministry of the Delta Motors building on Ortigas and Epifanio de los Santos ave. (EDSA).

Speaking before the United Nations Walkers' Club, Ople said that the purchase was made from the Welfare Fund to preserve its money value in the face of the tight economic situation and upon the advice of a well-known management and consulting firm.

Ople assailed a group of what he called "publicity scavengers" for subjecting the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) to public suspicion because of its purchase of the Delta building.

Ople said the building will become a "one-stop office" for Filipino workers who will not have to go to several places to transact with MOLE agencies.

Ople said the building will also house the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' passporting section and the Ministry of Health's clinic for the issuance of health certificates.

The Philippine National Bank will set up a branch in the building to attend to the dollar remittances of Filipino workers abroad, according to Ople.

Ople said the money used to buy the building was taken from the estimated P260-million welfare fund of some 700,000 Filipino overseas contract workers.

Minister Ople also urged a full public debate on the country's fundamental economic choices in the light of what he described as the failure of three decades of import-substitution strategy to rev up the Philippine economy.

He said such debate should focus on the question of whether country shall adhere to a narrow economic protectionism created by the import-substitution strategy or open its window a little bit more in order to face a growing dynamic outside competition.

CSO: 4200/41

ASSEMBLY MOVES TO REVIEW U.S. BASE LABOR AGREEMENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Sep 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] The regular National Assembly moved last night to review the Base Labor Agreement between the Philippines and the United States governments.

MP Antonio Diaz (KBL-Zambales) who stood on a question of personal privilege, branded the agreement as "defective" saying "it practically outlaws the right to a lawful strike."

At the same time, MPs Wilson Gamboa (Unido-Negros Occidental), Eduardo Joson and Mario Garcia--the latter two both from Isabela, asked the Batasan to look into the reported memorandum issued by Capt W.B. Clayton, Jr., commanding officer of the Subic hospital facility, prohibiting Filipino employees in the hospital from speaking and writing Pilipino within the base.

Gamboa said the reported ban against the national language was "an affront against the integrity, sovereignty and independence of this Republic and a spite against the Filipino people."

For his part, Diaz said the base labour agreement "violates its own provisions as to uniformity of treatment as to wages by basing wage levels on citizenship and totally disregarding the principle of equal pay for equal work."

Citing the memorandum of Clayton banning Pilipino inside the base, Diaz said "W.F. Clayton and all others of his ilk does not deserve to stay here one moment longer, does not deserve our hospitality, and must go home. The earlier the better."

MP Hjalmar Quintana (Unido-Quezon), on the other hand, moved for the "immediate dismantling of the US bases."

Meanwhile, the KBL decided anew in its chamber caucus to extend the budget deliberations for five days. The KBL also proposed to the minority group the holding of morning and afternoon sessions.

Other Batasan developments:

1. MPs Carlos C. Fernandez, Lito Atienza and Mel Lopez, all of the Manila Opposition, filed Resolution No 136 asking the Ministry of Human Settlements to provide the Batasan a study on the amortization profile of beneficiaries under its housing program, particularly those that are funded by foreign loans.

2. All opposition solons of Quezon--MPs Cesar Bolanos, Oscar F. Santos, Hjalmar Quintana, and Bienvenido Marquez--asked the Armed Forces Chief of Staff to recall all military officers assigned at the Philippine Coconut Authority and replace them with qualified civilians.

CSO: 4200/41

INTERNATIONAL ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE SUPPORTS ANTI-MARCOS STRUGGLE

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Sep 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Joel C. Paredes: "We'll Help Filipinos Fight Churchmen"]

[Text]

The International Ecumenical Conference on the Role of the Church in the Struggle of the Filipino People yesterday pledged support in the "dismantling of the US-backed Marcos dictatorship" to pave the way for a coalition government "truly representative of all democratic and nationalist" people.

The militant call came from the 190 church leaders and human rights advocates who penned the declaration for today's "International Day of Protest" when mass actions protesting the 12th anniversary of Marcos' declaration of martial law will be simultaneously held in the country and several key cities in the world.

"We share in the unflinching confidence of the Filipino people in the triumph of their just struggle," declared the conference delegates, who had earlier documented the regime's alleged "widespread abuses" during an International Fact-Finding Mission (IFFM).

The conference declaration was made after it bared the 124-page report of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) which called on the regime to stop human rights violations in the wake of continuing "militarization" despite the "nominal lifting of martial law."

The ICJ, a Geneva-based non-political organization supported by jurists from all continents to defend the rule of law, said the "Philippines is still a dictatorship" after citing that President Marcos "continues to legislate by decree and arrests and detains suspects indefinitely without charge or trial."

The ICJ also documented alleged widespread human rights violations by government troops after its jurist members travelled to different parts of the country this year to interview victims and their relatives as well as government ministers, the military and the church.

Bishop Erme Camba of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) and co-chairperson of the Ecumenical Bishop Forum

read the international ecumenical conference's statement, which declared a "unified response to the struggle of the Filipino people."

Lawyer Alex Padilla, secretary general of the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy (NAJFD) cited the imminent threat of direct US intervention to "protect the Marcos regime."

Sister Mariani Dimaranan, chairperson of the Ecumenical Partnership for International Concerns (EPIC), said, "there is one weapon we can use against Mr. Marcos, and that is to raise the consciousness abroad."

Also joining the panel were Bishop Julio X. Labayen, Fr. Ben Morales of the National Ecumenical Forum for Church Response (NEFCR), and members of the international solidarity groups - Frank Coppens of Australia, Dorothy Friesen of the US, Hans Schravenande of Netherlands, Kiwi Pasmimo of New Zealand and Mr. Ikegami of Japan.

The New Zealand delegates said their country's ruling Labor Party has already asked the government to withdraw all political and economic support to the Marcos government, and to reevaluate aid programmes to the Philippines during the party's victory conference last Sept 7-9.

The conference delegates will lead today marches from key points which will converge at the Liwasang Bonifacio at noon before proceeding to Mendiola bridge near Malacanang later in the afternoon.

In the US, international support groups have programmed mass actions to coincide with the international day of protest against the Marcos regime in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington and Norfolk, Virginia.

CSO: 4200/41

ILOCOS STUDENTS HOLD PROTEST RALLIES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Sep 84 p 3

[Article by Larry V. Sipin]

[Text]

BATAAC, Ilocos Norte — Hundreds of students at the state-owned Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) here walked out of their classes to stage protest rallies five times over the past two weeks in the first display of student unrest in the province since the imposition of martial law in 1972.

The Students for the Democratic Restoration of MMSU, an alliance of various campus organizations, assailed MMSU president Conrado Blanco for refusing to heed the students' various demands.

The students are pressing for a dialogue with Blanco to discuss the restoration of the MMSU student council, and the establishments of a campus newspaper by the students.

The MMSU student council was abolished in 1978.

The students are also demanding for student representation in the MMSU board of regents and in other policy-making bodies in the university.

In a position paper, the student alliance said the student government should be restored in accordance with MMSU's university code. The demand for the restoration of the student council was formally made to the dean of student affairs last Aug. 7.

The protesting students said that MMSU's official student organ MMSU News and Events — is run by faculty members and university officials, not by students.

"We are made to pay P7.00 each per semester for a so-called student publication that does not exist," the students said.

In the absence of a "legitimate student paper", an unidentified

group of students has been publishing two "underground" newsletters, both of which are largely critical of the school administrators.

A student leader who writes under a pseudonym in one of the newsletters said the underground organs enjoy more credibility than the official school paper because they reflect the true sentiments of the studentry.

School officials had earlier agreed to meet the students in a dialogue, with the dean of student affairs and the registrar as representatives of the MMSU administration.

The students, however, refused to meet with the designated university representatives, saying that they want to speak only with MMSU president Blanco because "she alone can make decisions".

Up to presstime, however, Blanco has not agreed to meet with the students.

According to the student alliance, students "are subjected to harassment and intimidation whenever they present ideas inimical to the interests of the school administration."

There is no freedom of assembly and freedom to receive or disseminate information in MMSU, the alliance added.

The alliance also reminded MMSU officials that "they are not rulers but public servants" because the university is run on government funds.

The students also demanded a reorientation of priorities, saying that Blanco is more concerned with landscaping and building construction than the provision of basic student needs such as library and laboratory facilities.

The student alliance, which was granted rally permits by acting Batas mayor Rodolfo Yadao, vowed to continue staging mass actions until the students' demands are met.

SUGAR PLANTERS SEEK RETURN TO NASUTRA TRADING

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Sep 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Sugarcane planters affiliated with the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters (NFSP) are reportedly planning to petition the government for the return of domestic sugar trading to the state-owned National Sugar Trading Corp (Nasutra).

NFSP officials said their members have been unhappy over the restoration of "free trading" on sugar because they could not get a fair price for their product.

Private sugar traders, they said, have refused to buy sugar from producers at the P300 per picul liquidation price suggested by the government.

In a meeting Wednesday in Bacolod City, NFSP members decried the practice of private sugar traders of offering to buy sugar at prices even below production costs.

During the meeting, NFSP President Armando C. Custilo advised the planters to discuss the sugar trading issue with their respective associations and "to make sure that the proposal to return domestic sugar trading to Nasutra comes as a voluntary decision among the planters themselves."

Ambassador Roberto S. Benedicto, chairman of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom), told the NFSP members that under the free trading system, government cannot enforce the price of P300 per picul upon the sugar traders.

The prices, he said, are negotiated between buyers and sellers and will have to be influenced by supply and demand positions in the marketplace.

Custilo, who added that controlled pricing is incompatible with free trading, said that the traders may not also be expected to trading operation was inefficient," Benedicto said while adding that "these quarters seem to even have no regard for the fact that the P2.77-billion loan was a business matter that was exclusively the concern of Nasutra."

In any case, according to Benedicto, Nasutra could have fully paid the loan a few years back, but this was delayed by the government's policy to maintain the export differential at a maximum level in order to help the sugar producers from crop year 1981 to date.

On charges that Nasutra's trading cost is excessive, Benedicto said that the actual trading cost is only 1.5 cents per pound, which has been made part of an overall operations cost that includes an administrative cost of .07 of a cent per pound and a financing cost of 1.62 cents per pound.

Nasutra, he said, had to shoulder this financing cost precisely because it had to extend advances for the producer's quedans undelivered before sugar shipment. "Nasutra had no money to begin with and neither did government extend it any subsidy, its only recourse therefore was to borrow money.

On the current delays in the liquidation of sugar, the Philsucom chairman said that "it is something beyond Nasutra's control, as the country is in a tight financial fix."

He expressed optimism, however, that the situation would soon improve as the approval of the IMF standby credit loan would improve the financial picture in the country.

Benedicto also debunked the speculation stories being peddled by Nasutra's detractors that the present glut of sugar in the market is due to Nasutra's so-called importation of sugar. "The so-called imported sugar was the shipment of two international traders who brought their sugar here last year to be refined in our refineries and then re-exported," he said.

This was formally arranged with appropriate tolling agreements, with us, Benedicto said and added that "that sugar has since been refined and has also since been re-exported." "Local sugar consumption is now down to 900,000 tons from an original estimate of one million tons, which is a contraction traceable to the price increases. This is the biggest single explanation for the so-called sugar glut in the marketplace today," he said.

CSO: 4200/41

FURTHER INFORMATION ON 'LOST COMMAND' CAMP ENCOUNTER

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Sep 84 p 3

[Article by Mike Crismundo]

[Text] San Francisco, Agusan del Sur--Six New People's Army guerillas were killed and 25 civilians, including women and children, were either killed or maimed when a big NPA group attacked last Sept 3 a settlement of "Lost Command" returnees in barangay Tambis here. Four of the defenders were also killed.

Details of the encounter have been withheld by the Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Sur PC authorities, but the clash was disclosed Friday to media-men by members of the former "Lost Command" led by Col Carlos Lademora.

Lademora's men said the encounter took place at 5:30 a.m. Sept 3 in the group's settlement at the boundary of Barubo, Surigao del Sur, and this town.

The defenders, who have been integrated with the civilian home defense force, said no reinforcement came from the Marines stationed in this town, 12 kms from the settlement, during the attack.

The NPAs numbering about 160, sneaked into the well-secured perimeter of the settlement by taking hostage an old villager who helped the defenders lay booby traps and trapholes.

Once they found the concentration of Lademora's men, the NPAs opened fire with FAL and M-16 automatic rifles and M-60 machineguns, the defenders said.

The rebels also laid mines on possible escape routes of the defenders.

A CHDF reinforcement led by Morito Malones, however, engaged the NPAs and repulsed the rebels in three-hour gunbattle.

When the smoke of battle cleared six NPA guerillas and four CHDF men lay dead, the defenders said. They said a pregnant woman was killed and several others were wounded. The rebels fired on nearby huts before they escaped.

The wounded are now confined at the Agusan del Sur Provincial Hospital, but hospital personnel would not disclose their identities.

CSO: 4200/41

MANILA COLUMNIST CRITICIZES ASSEMBLY BILLS, RESOLUTIONS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Sep 84 pp 4, 5

[Article by David C. Borie]

[Text] Some old practices in the old Congress, however unpopular they were, have been revived by several members of the First Regular Batasan. Many may not realize it, but keen political observers see strong indications of a contest for the most number of bills and resolutions filed, both local and national in character, involving millions of pesos for funding of proposed projects. As of last Wednesday, 1,512 parliamentary bills and 131 resolutions have already been introduced. Yet, the regular assembly is barely two months in existence.

By the time the First Regular Batasan ends its sessions 10 months from now, the number of bills and resolutions filed shall have been five times over and the appropriations involved running into billions of pesos. Considering that most of the bills introduced are for the construction of hospitals, school buildings and roads and bridges without the necessary funding available in view of the present economic crisis, perhaps it is safe to say that such proposals like those in the defunct Congress are only good for political propaganda of the proponents.

CSO: 4200/41

CAVITE STRIKE ERUPTS INTO VIOLENCE 21 SEP

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Sep 84 pp 1, 10

[Article by Del Villanueva]

[Text] Dasmarinas, Cavite--Violence erupted at the strike-bound Philippine Inter-Fashion Garments here when a group of armed men reportedly led by a town official forced their way through the picket line composed mainly of women workers Friday afternoon.

Twenty striking workers were wounded in the scuffle, along with Fr Cesar Reyes, parish priest of the Dasmarinas Bagong Bayan resettlement area, who tried to mediate.

Among those wounded were Gloria Arzaga, Helen Cabasas, Elena Limpiado, Jocelyn Miranda, and Fernando Desaleza.

The workers suffered contusions in the head and other parts of the body as a result of beatings received from the armed men.

The use of force was condemned by some 1,000 rallyists who went to the factory site located at the resettlement area to support the more than 800 strikers.

The rallyists belonging to the Sept 21 Movement and the local chapter of the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy were about to hold their scheduled rally inside the Dasmarinas Catholic church when they transferred their rally to the factory site after learning about the violent incident.

The labor union started the strike last Monday to protest alleged unfair labor practices of management.

The workers demanded a halt to the compulsory vacation and return of 300 casual employees earlier dismissed by the company which allegedly plans to close shop and transfer to another factory site.

CSO: 4200/41

PHILIPPINES

NPA REBELS PUBLICLY EXECUTE CIVILIAN MILITIAMAN

HK150040 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 14 Oct 84 p 11

[By correspondent Ruben Oliver Ensoy]

[text] Tacloban City--New People's Army (NPA) rebels staged last Monday a public execution of an unidentified Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF) member at the plaza of the elementary school in Barangay San Gabriel, Borongan town, Eastern Samar.

The CHDF member was executed by shooting. The execution was witnessed by some one hundred barangay residents, school teachers, and a visiting division supervisor, according to reports reaching this city.

It was gathered that after the execution, one of the executioners told the teachers not to panic because the rebels killed the CHDF member "for the rape of a woman in San Gabriel and for being one of those who 'raped democracy' in Eastern Samar during the last election."

The rebels reportedly said that the militiaman was one of those who snatched ballot boxes. The ballot snatching made the last election in Eastern Samar a farce, the rebels reportedly told the teachers.

Meanwhile, reports reaching here said that many policemen of the towns of Balankayan, Llorente, Herrani, General MacArthur, Quinapundan, Giporlos, and Balangica, all of Eastern Samar, have resigned reportedly because of frequent NPA attacks against them.

Many of these policemen have gone to Manila and do not want to go back to their towns for fear that they may be liquidated by the rebels, it was learned.

It was likewise gathered that in the towns of Quinapundan and General MacArthur there are many "ghost barangays" because the people have either evacuated to the poblacion, gone to Manila, this city, and other places for fear of the NPA.

Concerned citizens of Eastern Samar, who now reside in Metro Manila, have expressed concern over the plight of their provincemates.

CSO: 4200/63

SUSPECTED NPA REBELS KILL 43, SEIZE WEAPONS

HK091458 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 9 Oct 84 pp 1, 9

[Article by Jose de Vera]

[Text] At least 43 persons, including 30 civilians, were killed and 32 assorted firearms were seized in liquidation and firearms snatching activities intensified by rebels during the past two weeks in Samar, Davao del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, and Palawan.

Military reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo which came in trickles said that in firearms snatching incidents in Samar and Zamboanga del Sur, the victims were policemen and members of the Civilian Home Defense Forces. The snatchers were reportedly dressed neatly in uniforms of the 1st Infantry (Tabak) Division.

The rebels represented themselves as military men who came to conduct routine inspection of firearms issued to the police and CHDPS, reports said.

The policemen were made to join a formation with their issued firearms stocked in front of the formation for individual inspection. Members of the "inspecting teams" then took individual possession of stocked firearms, told the formation that they are actually "sparrow men" of the New People's Army, and left with the guns while other armed "sparrows" covered their withdrawal.

Disarmed in this manner in Barangay Ubod, Lakewood, Zamboanga del Sur, last 5 October at 2 p.m. by 30 rebels were Patrolmen Shelwyn Santigao, Diosdado Mag-aso, and Armando Pizon, all of the INP.

Taken from them were two M-16 Armalite rifles, a carbine, and a 38 caliber revolver.

In Hipaped, Eastern Samar, 30 rebels disarmed over a week ago 10 policemen, according to a report rendered by Brig. Gen. Salvador Mison, Regional Unified Command VIII (RUC) commander.

The group, all dressed in camouflage military uniforms and neatly polished shoes, was led by a certain "Colonel Reyes." The group, whom the unsuspecting policemen thought were friendly forces, took 10 guns of the Hipaped policemen.

In Davao del Norte, some 60 heavily armed men attacked a camp of Alcantara & Son in Barangay Linda, Nabuntura, last 5 October, killing Diano Bantigue, assistant manager of the firm, and CHDFS Antonio Acaso, Romeo Hiso, and Juan Lesmores. CHDF Abraham Minbrano was wounded.

The attackers ran off with one Browning automatic rifle, three Garand rifles, and three carbines, plus hundreds of assorted ammunition. Two rebels were killed by two policemen who outmaneuvered them inside the town hall.

In the town of Wright, Eastern Samar, Mison reported two weeks ago that the NPA attacked the town hall manned by a handful of policemen.

The policemen put up a fight, killing two initially. An army contingent that tried to come to the rescue of the policemen was ambushed at the approaches to the townhall.

In the battle that ensued, one more terrorist was killed as the ambushers tried to retreat and were met by another army contingent. Four more NPAS were killed.

A report considered as disturbing came from Palawan which told of some 30 civilians killed in a series of "liquidation incidents" in Brookes Point and Puerto Princesa City.

Most of the reported killings were executed with the use of bladed weapons and most of the victims were civilian riders of tricycles while the killers were riding in tandem on motorcycles, the reports said.

CSO: 4200/51

EIGHT KILLED IN 16 SEP LEYTE ATTACK

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Sep 84 pp 1, 10

[Article by Ruben Ensoy]

[Text] Tacloban City--Seven suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA) and a sixth-grade pupil were killed while 13 persons, including two soldiers and three children, were wounded during a raid last Sept 16 by some 150 rebels on the 357th Army detachment in barangay Hingatungan, Silago, Southern Leyte, a PC report said yesterday.

The sixth-grade pupil was killed while the three children and an old man were hit by stray bullets.

The slain rebels and their wounded companions were not identified. Four of them were women, the report said.

An army sergeant, who was not immediately identified, was critically wounded and was airlifted to the Bethany Hospital in Tacloban City.

The slain pupil was identified as Antonio Orpio. The injured children were Mary Ann Fortaleza, her brother Norman and four-year-old Jojo Perez. The wounded old man was identified as Loriosos Tos Lok. They were taken to the Anahawan, Southern Leyte Hospital.

Brig Gen Cesar G. Villarin, PC-INP Recom 8 commander said the raid started at 1:30 p.m. and lasted four hours.

At the same time that the detachment was being raided, another group of suspected NPA members raided the Leyte regional prison in barangay Mahagna, Abuyog, Leyte.

The raiders surprised the prison guards whom they disarmed. They took the guards' service weapons and several other firearms and ammunition, type-writers and radio transceivers.

Magr Cipriano Urgel, bishop of Palo, Leyte, who was a prison guest at the time, witnessed the raid, but was not harmed along with the prison guards.

Maj Gen Josephus Q. Ramas, Army commanding general, reported yesterday to Gen Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, that 269 New People's Army rebels and supporters surrendered to the headquarters of the 27th Infantry Battalion (Army) in Dinaig, Maguindanao.

Maj Eduardo R. Santiago, 27th IB commander based in Kabacan, North Cotabato said five commanders also surrendered and took their oath of allegiance to government before municipal Judge Fabiana Tijada.

CSO: 4200/41

STUDENT LEADER ON INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 20 Sep 84 p 9

[Article by Elmer Mercado: "Solidarity Vs Dictatorship"]

[Text]

In our common struggle against the US-Marcos dictatorship, the determined resistance and unity of our people is most decisive.

Wherever our militant mass struggle is, in the streets, of workers' in the factories, of the peasants' in the countryside, of the national minorities' in their ancestral lands, of the urban poor in the communities make up the crucial blows that weakens and ultimately leads to the dismantling of the dictatorship.

We consider our own actions as the determining factor in our struggle against a dictatorship supported by a foreign power, specially a superpower as the United States. The lessons of the victorious national liberation struggles of the peoples of China, Vietnam, Nicaragua and now the ongoing struggle of Afghanistan and El Salvador are still fresh and vivid to all of us. In their own experiences and even in our own, we must understand the importance and crucial role played by the solidarity actions given by peoples of different countries in our struggles.

We can only bear witness to the tremendous help of international human rights organizations like Amnesty International, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, The UN International Court of Justice and church-based groups in exposing the viciousness and atrocities committed by the US-Marcos dictatorship. The genocide of the people of the Cordillera and the Bangsamoro people; the massacre and salvaging of peasants of Quezon, Samar, Bicol and Central Luzon; the sugar planters of Negros; the breaking-up of workers' strikes in the Bataan Export Processing Zone; the truncheon attacks on the urban poor and students of Manila and other cities; the tortures of political dissenters — these were some of the crimes of the regime which stirred critical international public opinion which isolated and exposed the ilk and deceptive character of the dictatorship.

The projection given by the foreign media to the justness and correctness of our life-and-death struggle that enables people from

other countries, especially the United States, Japan, Europe and other developed countries to take notice and understand our situation and thereby contribute to their further resolve of initiating political actions directed at pressuring their own government to stop aiding and abetting the Marcos dictatorship.

We cite concrete notice of the committed assistance given by Japanese parliamentarians in blocking an aid-bill to the Marcos government in the Japanese Diet.

Most of all, our solidarity work based upon a common anti-imperialist standpoint serves notice that our struggle is not only for our own. But more importantly, we, as peoples of the world have

a common struggle against all types of foreign aggression and oppression that undermine our right to self-determination, especially among Third World peoples.

Therefore, we must not rely on the Marcos government in the anti-imperialist struggle, for it is in itself an appendage of US imperialism. We can further our international solidarity work as an organization, as a group, as a sector, as a struggling people. And our greatest contribution to the common anti-imperialist struggle with other people is the victory of our anti-imperialist, anti-dictatorship struggle against the US-Marcos regime and the establishment of our people's democratic coalition government.

CSO: 4200/41

BRIEFS

REBEL COMMANDER KILLED—Government troops have killed a rebel commander and one of his men in Surigao del Sur. The regional unified command said the encounter took place in Sitio Batungan, Ligning, Surigao del Sur. The victim was known as Commander Johnson. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 2230 GMT 15 Oct 84 HK]

MILITARY 'ON TOP OF' SITUATION—In eastern Samar, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-integrated National Police] Provincial Commander Ibarra Mariano said the military remains on top of the situation despite the sporadic attacks by the NPA in the region this year. In a radio program, Mariano also allayed fears of more impending attacks by the communist insurgents. He reiterated that the military is not only capable of meeting any threat posed by the NPA but stands fully committed to defend the stability of the Philippine Government. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting Company in English 1100 GMT 15 Oct 84 HK]

PETROLEUM PRICES TO RISE--Prices of petroleum products will likely be allowed to rise soon as a result of the continuing fall in the value of the peso against the U.S. dollar. When this happens, transportation fares, electric rates and the prices of consumer goods will also rise. Aside from that, prices of cigarettes and liquor are sure to go up because of increases in specific taxes. The government has already raised for the third time this year the tax on cigarettes. The tax on liquor will follow. Under a set formula of the government, prices of refined petroleum products like gasoline should rise by 2.3 centavos for every 10 centavo decline in the peso's exchange rate against the U.S. dollar. Since the peso-dollar rate is programmed to fall to the 20 peso to 1 dollar and 22 pesos to 1 dollar range from the official guiding rate of 18 to 1, the price of gasoline could rise between 46 centavos and 92 centavos a liter. These projected price increases could further rise by 10 centavos a liter once the additional mark-up sought by service station dealers is included. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 12 Oct 84 HK]

MARCOS ORDERS PROBE--The immediate investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in the alleged multimillion peso equipment overpricing racket is ordered by the president. The racket caused the collapse of several foreign-assisted projects. Tasked to undertake the probe are the Development Bank of the Philippine Export and Foreign Loan Guarantee Corporation. These

three state-owned firms guarantee the foreign loans used to finance these projects undertaken by the private sector. The three firms have the documents showing the signatures of the approving officials and the project proponents. [Text] [Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 15 Oct 84 OW]

TRADE BALANCE IMPROVES—The National Economic Development Authority [NEDA] said yesterday [12 October] the country's balance of trade continues to improve. Exports in August outpaced imports by \$28 million, or by 17 percent. In his report to President Marcos, NEDA Director and Economic Planning Minister Vicente Valdepenas noted that the volume of exports last August was the biggest this year. Total exports from January to August stood at \$3,500 million, which is higher by \$250 million than the comparative figure in 1983. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 12 Oct 84 HK]

ARMY RAIDS NPA HEADQUARTERS—Meanwhile, the military has conducted a successful raid on a top-ranking CPP NPA [National People's Army] hideout in (Lugman), Cagayan de Oro City. Armed Forces Chief General Fabian Ver said the hideout served as headquarters of the Mindanao Commission Staff, headed by Romulo (Quintena), alias (Rali). (Quintena) was wounded during the raid, but managed to escape with another companion. However, his driver-bodyguard was killed during the firefight that ensued. [Text] [Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 8 Oct 84]

AMBUSH KILLS FIVE—Five people, including a police station commander of Siasi, Sulu, were killed in an ambush in Zamboanga early this morning. The ambush took place near an unmanned town checkpoint at Barangay Pasonanca. Three other people were wounded in the attack by unidentified men who had positioned themselves on the roadside and awaited the car bearing Siasi police station commander, (Abdul Rasad Ali). The other fatalities were identified as patrolman (Carabani Andan), militiaman (Estefanio Lozano), civilians Celina Gregorio and (Eduardo Llamson). [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 10 Oct 84]

LIFTING PRICE CONTROLS—Price controls on selected basic goods and commodities will be lifted before the end of the year. This was stressed today by Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin. Ongpin pointed out, however, price controls will be reimposed if the need arises. Price controls, according to Ongpin, are temporary measures adopted in abnormal situations to prevent traders from taking advantage. The first consumer goods whose price ceilings will be lifted are pork and chicken. [Text] [Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 9 Oct 84]

CSO: 4200/51

JURIDICAL COUNCIL: SAMAK BREACHED HIS AUTHORITY

BK130350 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 13 Oct 84 p 5

[Excerpts] The Juridical Council has ruled that Communications Minister Samak Sunthorawet breached his authority in granting operating franchise for a provincial route to the owners of 19 buses--a conclusion which is against an earlier decision on the case by the government's two-member committee.

Chairman of the House Standing Committee for Communications, Prem Malakun na Ayutthaya (Chat Thai-Uttaradit), said Deputy Secretary General of the Juridical Council Watana Ratanavikris had submitted the conclusion of the finding to the House committee, explaining details on all aspects concerning the communications minister's authority.

According to the Juridical Council, the communications minister was not entitled to set up a sub-committee to consider and grant operating concession to the 19 privately-owned buses.

As the communications minister, Samak has two roles as stipulated in the Land Transportation Act B.E. 2522.

One, according to the Juridical Council's explanation, is to appoint inspectors, issue ministerial order, fix duty fees, oversee general affairs on land transportation and study appeals on orders by registrars.

The other role which involves his capacity as chairman of the Land Transportation Policy Committee includes defining policies on land transportation but through the entire committee, and not on his own judgment.

Thus, the communications minister was not entitled to fix the land transportation policy on his own, the council said.

Chat Thai MP Prem said the conclusion of the Juridical Council clearly indicated that it was against an earlier ruling by the government's committee. Two members of the committee were Michai Ruchuphan and Dr Kamon Thongthammachat, both ministers of the Prime Minister's Office.

He said he would raise the issue with the House speaker in order to debate the conclusion of the Juridical Council in the national legislative body.

DAILY SCORES 'SYCOPHANTS' TRYING TO USE ATHIT

BK121610 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 9 Oct 84 p 4

[Article: "Sycophantic Groups—Thorns in Athit's or Prem's Back"]

[Text] Although General Athit Kamlang-ek reconfirmed recently that "at this time" he has no ambitions to hold anything other than his current posts as supreme commander and army commander, which are posts for career government officials, it is doubtful if his sycophantic subordinates will accept his wishes. Sycophants are not limited to just soldiers whose behavior is out of line or influential soldiers who are out of active service, but include some politicians and technocrats. These people have different political purposes and interests, but have the same goal--that is, their future will suddenly brighten up once General Athit replaces General Prem Tinsulanon in terms of holding complete political power.

Sycophants say their activities serve their boss, but they actually are motivated by selfishness more than anything else. Some soldiers who are now out of active service hope that by showing all-out support for General Athit the severe legal charges against them will be downgraded or even dismissed. As for technocrats who show their pretty faces on television programs, they entertain dreams of being appointed as cabinet ministers. While sycophantic active military officers envisage their military positions being secure if Athit successfully attains political position.

Because latent interests are so great, the sycophants' activities were at times rather cruel as far as General Prem's feelings are concerned. Some activities also showed disregard for the democratic system and constitution. Some sycophantic colonels even urged their columnist friends to write pieces to the effect that the prime minister, while he was suffering from a lung ailment, should quit. Rumors were spread to the effect that an extension of Athit's term and an amendment to the constitution would be submitted to a cabinet meeting while the prime minister was sick in Phra Mongkutklao Hospital. Some politicians started a campaign to convene a special parliamentary session to reinterpret the constitution even though they knew the prime minister was unhappy with that strange parliamentary motion.

Military sources have given assurances that General Athit was not moved at all by all such sycophantic activities. Athit even asked a deputy party leader to

stop his campaign to convene a special parliamentary session. Athit also indicated openly that he did not want the Sayam Manusati Program--which tried deliberately to exploit the differences in the thinking on the prime minister's illness--to pursue the issue any further.

General Athit himself is in a difficult position in light of his being the most powerful military officer and his being regarded as the most suitable person to assume political power after General Prem.

The Sycophants' activities, though claiming good intentions, have aimed at eroding General Prem's political position. Such activities have not escaped the general public's eyes. Some military officers who had respectable pasts as professional soldiers have had their reputations ruined as a result of their being dragged down into the pit of greed by the sycophants.

For this reason, Athit's reiteration of his having no political ambitions is not merely a message to General Prem, but to the sycophants as well. However, it appears that they have pretended not to hear it, and this has presented a problem for General Athit. He may have to do something else to further stress his principle in order to avoid being tarnished by the mud stirred up by the Sycophants' clumsy activities.

CSO: 4207/13

THAILAND

ANTI-SRV, LPDR GUERRILLA MOVEMENTS DESCRIBED

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 26 Aug 84 pp 4, 5

[Article: "White Vietnamese Join Hands With White Lao and White Kampuchians to Kill Pro-Russian Vietnamese"]

[Text] This writer never thought that White and Red Vietnamese would be killing each other in Thai territory, but that is what is happening. The fighting is going on along the border where Thailand, Laos and Kampuchea meet. But before discussing the fighting, I have to describe the field and camps and tell you when the White Vietnamese first came and established their headquarters in Thailand in order to fight the pro-Russian Vietnamese.

Ever since Saigon fell to the North Vietnam, people from southern Vietnam have been fleeing to Thailand. Some of these Vietnam War refugees live in the refugee centers set up by the government. Others live with relatives in various places. There are Vietnamese refugees living in every region of Thailand, particularly in the northeast in Ubon Ratchathani, Udorn Thani, Nong Khai, Sakon Nakhon and Nakhon Phanom provinces.

The northeast is not the only region where there are many Vietnamese. Many Vietnamese refugees are living in the east in Prachinburi Province, which borders Kampuchea. And because there are so many Vietnamese in Thailand, Thais tend to view them in a negative way.

One writer saw Vietnamese transporting supplies in a border district and immediately assumed that the Vietnamese in Thailand were aiding the pro-Russian Vietnamese. Later on, he learned that these Vietnamese were actually taking the supplies to southern Vietnamese who had established a secret headquarters deep in the forest in the upper and lower northeast where Thailand, Laos and Kampuchea come together. To those who frequently travel in this forest area, the area is known as the Khan Thung forest.

The Khan Thung forest is an immense forest where forest travellers can walk for several days without coming out of it. Part of the Khan Thung forest is in Savannakhet Province in Laos. Another part of it is in three Thai districts--Buntharik, Na Chalui and Nam Tun--in

Ubon Ratchathani Province. Another part of this forest is in Kampuchea.

This remote area is the location of the headquarters of the Lao-Vietnamese-Kampuchean national liberation movement. The southern Vietnamese refer to themselves as the Bua Kham National Liberation Movement. The Lao group is known as the Lao National Liberation Movement and is subordinate to the group of Prince Sit Na Champasak. And there is the Khmer Serei.

The target of all three of these groups is the same, that is, the pro-Russian Vietnamese. All of these groups are trying to regain control of their countries.

Because these three groups that lost the war all have the same goal, they have joined forces to fight the pro-Russian Vietnamese. In this coalition liberation movement, it is the Bua Kham group that has the men and weapons to fight. For this reason, the Bua Kham National Liberation Movement is the key element and the spearhead in attacking the enemy. Three methods of attack have been stipulated:

Tactic 1: The Bua Kham movement must attack in Laos in order to open up guerrilla trails to Saigon. Forces have been positioned along the Thai-Lao [border] as forward outposts.

Tactic 2: The battalions of the Lao Liberation Movement are to be dispersed along the border to hold the Thai-Lao border area. These forces are combat support forces.

Tactic 3: The Bua Kham National Liberation Movement is using Kampuchean territory to transport weapons. Aid is being received from China through Kampuchea. The Khmer Serei is providing help by escorting the weapons shipments that pass through Kampuchea.

Concerning the fact that these liberation groups are using Thai territory and carrying on their liberation activities in Thailand, our leaders must monitor this closely. They must not ignore this or be careless in monitoring events. Concerning the situation today, the actions of the foreign forces are affecting national security. The important things are:

1. The national liberation groups and their united fronts are using Thai territory to fight the pro-Russian Vietnamese. The pro-Russian Vietnamese know this and are trying to smash the liberation groups. This means that the Thais who live along the border are in great danger of being harmed by the fighting between the two sides.

2. The Lao liberation forces, which are support forces for the Bua Kham liberation forces, have dispersed their forces inside Thailand. Some groups are stationed quite close to Thai villages and this has affected the people living along the border since the people here

believe that this is their land. They used to go into the forest to obtain forest products and to raise their cattle and buffalo. But the Lao liberation group has now announced that this area belongs to them. This has become a problem, and it looks as if this could lead to a serious conflict between the rightful owners of the land and the exiles. And this has generated confusion among the Lao liberation forces and the Thais. There have been reports that White Lao forces have fought among themselves. But the Lao liberation forces claim that the Lao people would never do that.

3. The Khmer Serei is active in the area of responsibility of the First Army Area, which must monitor things to ensure that these forces don't cross into Thailand. The First Army Area often does very strange things. This may be because it has had to confront enemies from outside the country and has not encountered war factors within the country. Thus, it has done things that have created factors. They must not do anything that might lead to an international war, which would destroy Thailand. We can't say much about this army area; we will be "attacked." It would be better to flee.

As for the three points that I mentioned, don't think that they are impossible. We will have come full circle. That is, the pro-Russian Vietnamese will be sending troops across the border to smash the Saigon Vietnamese. •

It's strange that the Vietnamese have sent troops across the border into Thailand but no one is afraid. When they attack, only the forest animals flee. But concerning what is really happening, you can read more about this in the pocketbook "Suk Khamchat" [International War].

As for CHAT ATHIPATAI, we will stop here. The next issue will be available at the beginning of next month. That is not too long to wait.

Sign captions: Ban Thung Nong Bua, Village 4, Chong Mek Subdistrict, Phibun Mangsahan District, Ubon Ratchathani Province, a Thai-Lao Border Self-Defense Village

Ban Paet Um, Dom Pradit Subdistrict, Nam Yun District, Ubon Ratchathani Province.

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CSO: 4207/215

THAILAND

NORTHEASTERNS SUPPORT APPOINTMENT OF MONK

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Northeasterners Interested In Conferment of Phra Ratchakhana Title"]

[Text] Those with phra ratchakhana status [an ecclesiastical title] and the people in the northeast are following the deliberations concerning the appointment of a phra ratchakhana to two vacant somdet positions. It is feared that one phra ratchakhana who is senior in both age and number of years in the Buddhist Order and who is well qualified will not be considered. They are preparing to appeal for fairness.

Mr San Arunothai, a Social Action Party MP from Khon Kaen, told SIAM RAT that when he went and visited people recently, they made appeals concerning the appointment of a phra ratchakhana to two vacant positions, that is, somdet phra phutachan and somdet phra thirayanmuni. At present, the Council of Elders is considering this matter. In accord with tradition, the appointment will be announced on 5 December, the king's birthday. In considering a phra ratchakhana for the position of somdet, he must be a person who is senior in terms of both age and number of years in the order, and he must be highly qualified.

Mr San said that the villagers have asked northeastern MPs to contact government officials and discuss this matter with them. He sent a letter to Mr Phichai Rattakun, the deputy prime minister, about this and received a reply stating that this matter was up to the Council of Elders and that the government could not get involved. However, the phra ratchakhana and people in the northeast feel that Phra Phimalatham from Wat Mahathat is the most senior and most qualified phra ratchakhana holder, and they support him for the somdet position.

Mr San said that at present, the phra ratchakhana and people in the northeast are saying that if Phra Phimalatham is not appointed somdet, there will definitely be a reaction and appeals will be made. And there is concern that matters will become even more serious.

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CSO: 4207/215

THAILAND

EDITORIAL FAULTS CRITICISM OF DISSIDENTS' ARREST

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 28 Aug 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Negligence That Should Be Criticized"]

[Text] A short news item appeared last week that we think should be discussed since the effects of that story are too important to be allowed to pass unnoticed. And while some may think that it would be good if the matter died down so that things don't have to be prolonged, that would be a big mistake, particularly if it is the government that feels that way.

The matter referred to concerns the visit here by four or five experts. They came to attend an academic conference in Bangkok and took the opportunity to issue a statement about the arrest of Thai scholars (about which they had been informed) by Thai police officials in Thailand. They said that this poses a threat to people's freedom to express scholarly ideas. Certainly, as fellow scholars, these people disagreed with the action taken. And so they appealed to the government to conduct an open and speedy investigation. They also expressed the intention of having foreign experts come and observe the trial here.

Our first point is that we don't feel that this statement showed proper understanding toward the Thai government. It showed a lack of understanding concerning Thailand's administrative system and concerning the case itself.

It is basic knowledge--you don't have to be a scholar to know this--that Thailand is a democracy with the king at the head. Parliament, the cabinet and the courts carry out their duties under the sovereign power of the Thai people.

Thais approve of this system and so we hold the monarchy in great esteem and accept the three powers, with the stipulation that "laws" be the rules of society and that they be used to regulate things or provide support so that the systems or institutions that are accepted and respected can survive in society or be independent in accord with academic principles.

While we are not a developed country like other great powers in the world, we have sufficient knowledge to be able to promulgate and revise laws and regulations, which are respected by most of the people in the country and which have long been used to govern the country to ensure people's well-being.

Did these people, who claim to be scholars and who came to attend a conference in our country, have some magical power or special reason to suspect that the laws or regulations in force in our country are not good and cannot provide justice to the people in this country and that they have to apply pressure or send people to observe the legal proceedings? This is a method that great-power bullies used with backward countries or their "slaves" in former times.

Are we going to allow those who call themselves experts but who don't even know, or won't accept, the difference between the two types of cases, that is, cases involving violations of the Anti-communist Act and cases involving lese majesty, to interfere with Thailand's institutions?

We don't think that the government should ignore such statements, regardless of who makes them. As long as the Thai people accept and respect all the institutions and are confident that justice can be found in Thai courts, the government should not allow people to speak thoughtlessly without making some response as it did just recently.

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CSO: 4207/215

THAILAND

EDITORIAL BACKS STUDENT STAND ON ATHIT EXTENSION

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 26 Aug 84 p 6

[Editorial: "The Opposition By Student Organizations"]

[Text] Last Friday, representatives from student organizations at six institutions, including Mr Phichai Rattanadilok Na Phuket, the external vice president of the Mahidon University Student Association, and Miss Premchit Aphonmaeklong, the external vice president of the Chulalongkorn University Studentbody Executive Committee, met with Rear Admiral Prakop Wasinon in order to submit letters opposing the extension of General Athit Kamlangek's term as RTA CINC and supreme commander to General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, and the three deputy prime ministers.

The letters said that the country's present situation requires that we rely on many people to help think about and solve the problems. The same is true for the administrative system. That is, everyone must play a part in making criticisms and expressing ideas since the various government units affect the lives of everyone. This is particularly true for the military, which is the institution that is responsible for the survival of the country. Thus, it must listen to the criticisms made by the people, the masters of the country.

Concerning the proposal to grant an extension to the present RTA CINC and supreme commander, the students from the six institutions oppose this for the following reasons:

1. An institution's ability to survive and carry out its tasks efficiently does not depend on any one individual but rather on the administrative system of that institution. Thus, if an institution leans toward the position tht its survival depends on a particular individual, it shows that it is encountering failure in administration. And if that institution is important to the country, this will have a bad effect on the country.
2. The student organizations believe tht there are capable people in the army who can take over as RTA CINC and supreme commander. If the army does not have people who are capable of assuming these positions it shows that past efforts to develop the army have failed completely.

3. It is clear that in the past, granting extensions led to splits within the military since this blocked the advancement of younger officers. Also, this might allow a person to build up his power in order to benefit personally. That would be very bad for the country and for the development of the army.

Thus, the student organizations have appealed to the prime minister to consider this matter carefully and give primary consideration to the interests of the people. He must be careful not to become the tool of people who are trying to gain power, which would be bad for the country and the people.

Has General Prem, the prime minister, received the letter from the student organizations and will the matter of General Athit's extension be discussed? No one knows. But something worth noting is that the student organizations are composed of people at the tertiary level of education who are not involved in and will not benefit personally from the problem that has arisen. Thus, it can be said that these people have expressed their views with pure intentions. And people have become interested in their views. This is different from other mass groups.

But at the same time, as stated above, the student organizations are composed of highly educated individuals, and the people have great faith in them. Thus, it is only natural that some people are trying to make use of these organizations for their own purposes so as to benefit themselves. Or they are trying to persuade these forces to engage in activities not permitted by the law in order to destroy them since they feel that these forces pose an obstacle to establishing an administrative system that uses resolute power in the country.

We feel that in the country's present situation, all factions must cooperate and work together to solve the various problems. And this means that each faction must be allowed to express its views freely. People should not consider the problems to be the concern of just certain groups. What is important is that if the problems are left to just certain groups, it will not be possible to solve the problems. Solving the problems requires the support of the majority of the people in the country. This lesson has been made clear in many countries.

For this reason, we hope that all factions will listen to the views of the students. As for whether or not people agree with these views, that is another matter.

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MARINE IRREGULAR UNITS ON PRK BORDER NOTED

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 26 Aug 84 pp 53-55

[Article: "Laments From the Border About the Marine Corps' Thahan Phran Irregular Problem"]

[Excerpts] After the Pol Pot government took control of Kampuchea in 1975, the terrorist situation in the area bordering Kampuchea from Ubon Ratchathani Province to Trat Province became more and more serious and so it became necessary to use regular troops, who are directly responsible for defending the nation, [to suppress the terrorists]. This weakened the forces that are responsible for maintaining the country's sovereignty. Thus, people began thinking about forming a force to suppress the communist terrorists and maintain internal security. The army submitted this idea to Supreme Command Headquarters and finally received permission. After that, the idea was submitted to the cabinet to obtain permission to establish a thahan phran irregular unit.

At first, this unit was called the "Special Operations Border Irregulars Unit." It was to operate along the Thai-Kampuchean border. Small units were established in order to carry on guerrilla operations to harass and eliminate the terrorists that had become very bold and that operated as small units. The cost of forming this force was less than having regular forces come carry out this task.

Initially, these forces operated in border areas where the communist terrorists were active. Because at that time, the Pol Pot government, a pro-Chinese communist party, was supporting the communist terrorists and so the level of violence increased. Initially, 12 companies were formed. They were trained at a special warfare camp at Nong Takop in Pak Chong District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province. The navy entrusted the Royal Thai Marine Corps (RTMC) with the task of sending cadre personnel to train the thahan phran irregular units that were under the control of the navy. Initially, this was done in two border districts, that is, Pong Nam Ron and Bo Rai districts, within the navy's area of jurisdiction in Chanthaburi and Trat provinces. Twelve thahan phran irregular companies were formed, two of which were subordinate to the RTMC. Beginning in 1978, the situation began to grow even worse and so in 1980 it became necessary to form an additional six companies

of thahan phran irregulars. A thahan phran irregular regiment with six companies was formed. After Vietnam seized control of Kampuchea, the border situation changed. Instead of communist terrorists, it was foreign troops that posed a threat along the border. Main-force units had to come and defend the country's sovereignty. Regular troops came and secured the area. They had to remain in the area and could not be withdrawn to their bases for combat training. Thus, the efficiency of the forces in defending the country declined. People thought of increasing the role of the thahan phran irregulars in preserving the sovereignty of the country and having them replace main-force units. Thus, consideration was given to again increasing the number of thahan phran irregulars.

In the final stage in 1981, permission was obtained to form 14 companies of thahan phran irregulars subordinate to the RTMC. Various projects were entrusted to the army area. As for the projects of the navy, it made the RTMC responsible for supervising and controlling the thahan phran irregulars operating along the border.

Thus, at present, the RTMC thahan phran irregular special action unit has a total strength of 26 companies. The forces are divided into four control groups with each control group having a strength equal to that of a light infantry [battalion], that is, there are six companies in each control group. Each company has 80 cadres, all of whom are volunteer thahan phran irregulars, and four cadre personnel.

Now, one more medical cadre has been assigned to each company, which makes a total of five cadre personnel. And so at present, each company has a total of 85 thahan phran irregular volunteers and cadre personnel from the regular forces.

Each control group has six companies and so, on the average, each control group has a strength of approximately 500 men. Thus, at present, the total strength of the RTMC thahan phran irregular special action unit, which is responsible for the border area, is 2,000 men. The unit stationed at Nong Bon is Group 4, which is responsible for the border area in lower Pong Nam Ron District.

The positions of the Thai-Kampuchean border defense forces stretch from the Chanthaburi-Prachinburi border area in the Ta Ngo mountains, which borders Kampuchea and which is the area of responsibility of the First Army Area, along the Chanthaburi border to Pong Nam Ron District and Trat Province. That is, the final position is at Ban Hat Lek in Trat Province. Thus, their area of responsibility runs 250 kilometers along the border.

In Chanthaburi, two control groups of thahan phran irregulars have been used to defend the border.

Group 1 divided the forces into two subgroups. One of the subgroups was made subordinate to CPM [Civio-Police-Military Unit] No 13. It was engaged in suppressing the communist terrorists in the area. As for the suppression of communist terrorists using thahan phran irregulars subordinate to CPM No 13, in 1984 the situation has been normal and so responsibility for the area has been turned over to the Chanthaburi Internal Security Operations Command. Three companies have gone to control the area in Pong Nam Ron District while the other three companies have been made subordinate to a main-force battalion in Trat Province to help defend the country in Bo Rai and Muang districts in Trat Province.

As for Control Group 2, which is composed of six companies, the Chanthaburi-Trat Command has made it responsible for defending the mountainous border area to the point of contact with the First Army Area, a distance of approximately 10 kilometers.

At present, Control Group 3 has been ordered to carry on operations in upper Khlong Yai District in Trat Province. It is presently subordinate to the main-force battalion operating in Trat Province.

Control Group 4, which has six companies, has its headquarters at Ban Nong Bon, which is approximately 3 kilometers from the border. It is carrying on operations in accord with the orders received from the Chanthaburi-Trat Command, operating from the Phadong Mountain area to the mountains south of Ban Tat, a distance of 16 kilometers. It has been reinforced at important mountain passes. These forces were rotated here 2 years ago.

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CSO: 4207/215

UTHAI DISCUSSES CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ISSUE

BK120305 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 13 Oct 84 p 2

[Text] House Speaker Uthai Pinchaichon said yesterday that several points in the present Constitution should be revised but "the timing isn't right for an amendment at the moment."

Speaking on the topic "Constitution B.E. [Buddhist Era] 2521 [1978] (Present): Is it suitable?" at the Faculty of Law, Ramkhamhaeng University, Uthai said the Constitution should be more democratic and the electoral system was one of the major points which should be amended.

He said he preferred a system in which candidates could run in the polls on individual basis because "it would be fair to all candidates and also save the candidates' campaign spendings."

He said the Constitution should also be revised to reduce the number of senators which is currently fixed at three-fourths of the total number of elected MP's. He pointed out that it should be reduced to only one-fourth or the maximum of 100 persons.

The Senate should screen draft bills which are passed by the House of Representatives, and not act like another political party, he said.

The leader of Progressive Party said the Constitution should also be amended so that it would be compulsory for the government to seek approval from Parliament for its policy statement before starting its administration.

"This will set clear-cut objectives for the government in its administration," he indicated.

He, however, was opposed to the proposal of some MP's that the Constitution should require that a prime minister must be an elected MP.

There should be more flexibility in the selection of a prime minister and it is elected MP's who, after all, choose the prime minister, he said.

Uthai stressed his opposition to a move to amend the Charter to allow permanent government officials to take political posts, saying "anyone who wants to be a Cabinet member should leave the government service."

History has proved that there will be more disadvantages in allowing a permanent official to simultaneously become a political appointee," he said.

He said most MP's have had the desire to change the electoral system in the Constitution but "they should not use their desire as a quid pro quo with those who want to make the Constitution undemocratic."

He pointed out the timing was not favourable for the constitutional amendment and "a crisis should not be cited as a reason for an amendment."

Uthai said he fully agreed with the leader of Social Action Party who said the time was not ripe for discussing the constitutional revision.

Another panelist in the discussion, Thawin Phraison (Democrat-Nakhon Si Thammarat) said an amendment of the constitution would be inevitable but "it should be made to pave the way for more democracy."

He advocated Uthai's opinion on the electoral system and his objection to permanent government officials becoming political appointees at the same time.

CSO: 4200/54

'CONFESSIONS' DEMANDED FOR CPT SUSPECTS' RELEASE

BK120339 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 12 Oct 84 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] University lecturer Dr Pricha Piamphongsan and another communist suspect have rejected an offer by police to release them in exchange for "confessions." The two insist they are innocent.

The offer made by the Special Branch Division (SBD) to nine of the 22 communist suspects arrested in a series of raids in Bangkok in July. The seven other suspects accepted the offer.

But none of the alleged members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) were covered by the offer, which came with the completion of the police investigation into the case.

Dr Pricha and Mongkhon Wutthisingchai rejected the offer, claiming they were innocent and that they would fight the case in court.

But Dr Pricha told THE NATION last night he was "giving the offer some thought" but ruled out the condition that he first confess to all charges against him in exchange for his freedom.

Commander of SBD Pol Maj Gen Kasem Sangmit said the offer for conditional release was made to enable both sides to "meet halfway."

The SBD chief said he forwarded the report on the investigation, as well as the proposed releases, to Assistant Police Director Genral Pol Lt Gen Phao Sarasin on Wednesday. If the report is not referred back, the Public Prosecutor Department is expected to prosecute the suspects in Military Court in about two months, he said.

Dr Pricha said he was told by SBD officials that he still had time to consider the offer.

CSO: 4200/54

DIFFERENCES WITH LAOS SET ASIDE AT BOAT RACE

BK110232 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 11 Oct 84 p 5

[Excerpt] Nong Khai--As Thailand and Laos traded charges at the United Nations over a border dispute, peoples from the two countries yesterday set aside their differences and took part in an annual boat race in Mekong River here.

A delegation of about 50 Laotian oarsmen and villagers led by Bounleut Souliyavong, chairman of Muang Hatsaifong of Vientiane crossed the river at about 9 am and called on Governor Sakda Ophong.

Governor Sakda said in his welcome speech that Thai and Lao peoples have had a common traditional and cultural bond for over 600 years.

He said despite the ideological differences, the two countries are adhering to the principle of their joint communique which considers Mekong River to be a river of peace.

Apart from the boat race, officials from the two countries also held talks on bilateral local matters.

CSO: 4200/54

PRASONG TO REQUEST UN AID FOR REFUGEES

BK050305 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Oct 84 p 5

[Text] Thailand will ask the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] for 600 million baht and third countries will be urged to take more refugees.

National Security Council [NSC] Secretary-General Sqn-Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday he will make the requests at the UNHCR's 35th annual meeting in Geneva which ends on 19 October.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong, who left last night with a delegation representing the Interior and Foreign Ministries and the Supreme Command, was optimistic Thailand's request for 600 million baht for next year would be approved.

"Last year we asked for 700 million baht and got it," he said. "This year we are asking for 600 million because the number of refugees has gone down a little. There should be no problem."

In spite of the reduced influx, he said, there were still 125,000 Indon-chinese in Thai camps and some 250,000 mainly in the Thai-Kampuchean border.

"I wish to explain to the UNHCR and other countries that these two problems are still a heavy responsibility for us. The number of refugees accepted by third countries for resettlement is decreasing each day and we want it quickly increased," Sqn-Ldr Prasong said.

He said Vietnam had boosted its military presence along the Khmer border in recent weeks, heralding a possible rainy season offensive which would send more Khmers across the border.

The NSC chief also said some third countries were unfairly using immigration criteria to select refugees for resettlement.

"Their regulations are not in keeping with the humanitarian principles which are supposed to be applied to the refugee problem. When they want us to take in refugees they cite humanitarian reasons, but when they select refugees they use immigration laws.

"Maybe we will have to use immigration laws to apply to refugees fleeing their countries as well."

Sqn-Ldr Prasong, who is to report on Thailand's internationally-funded piracy programme, said: "Those who attack us are never involved in the anti-piracy effort and have listened to other people talk. But those who have seen the programme in operation, including UNHCR Commissioner Poul Hartling, have been quite satisfied with it."

"I think most of them understand the problem now. We are serious about it and have done our best. It's not easy to patrol the Gulf of Thailand. And if piracy occurs in the Gulf everyone thinks that it's our responsibility, but the Gulf also includes Vietnam, Kampuchea, Malaysia and even Singapore."

CSO: 4200/54

GOVERNMENT INCREASES IMPORT TAX ON LUXURIES

BK100133 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Oct 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Cars, electrical appliances, liquor and tobacco will cost more under sweeping import tax increases imposed by the government yesterday.

The Finance Ministry said that under the measures, which are intended to reduce the trade and payments deficits, surtax on luxury items will double to 20 percent.

Other luxury goods that will cost more include motorcycles and parts, car parts, jewelry, perfumes, cosmetics, furniture, cloth, animal meat, fish, beverages, shells, flowers (fresh, dry or dyed), granite, marble and other ornamental stone.

But import duty on some items like computers and components has been reduced from 30 percent to 20 percent or even waived in a bid to spur local industry. Similarly, export tax on a few commodities including rubber and leather has been cut or waived to promote exports.

Further import duty cuts on consumer items like vegetables and flour made from grain (except wheat) have been halted in order to reduce imports. Vegetables are now subject to 50 percent duty.

To protect and promote local industry, the ministry has increased the duty on textiles, cement and glass by 10-20 percent while reducing by 20 percent the tax on synthetic dyes for textiles and chemicals used to produce fertiliser.

The ministry said it cut the import duty on computers and parts by 10 percent to promote the use and local manufacture of advanced technology.

To boost exports, the ministry has exempted tanned buffalo and cow leather, smoked rubber sheet, block rubber and crepe rubber provided export prices remain below the limit given in the announcement. If prices exceed the limit, a marginal duty will be applied.

While fish importers now face 72 percent tax, the measures were generally well accepted in industry circles.

CSO: 4200/54

FEATURE DISCUSSES ASEAN PARLIAMENTARY MEETING

BK061237 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 6 Oct 84

["News in Perspective" feature]

[Text] The second day of the 7th General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization on Thursday, 4 October, saw the meeting of three committees, namely the Political Affairs Committee, the Socio-Economic Matters Committee, and the Committee on Organizational Matters.

The Political Affairs Committee discussed, among the important issues, the Kampuchean and the refugee problems. On the Kampuchean problem, the committee (?concentrated on) the problem of the Kampuchean Government. It viewed that support should be given to the Coalition Government of the Democratic Kampuchea under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. It also expressed appreciation that the government will take definite action to complete separation between Kampuchean military and civilian camps. Besides, it asked international communities to recognize the Coalition Government of the Democratic Kampuchea, and called on Vietnam to put an end to its aggression and intervention in that country.

Concerning the subject of refugees, the Political Affairs Committee considered the assistance given to refugees and displaced persons by resettling in the third countries. The committee deemed it appropriate to ask the government of other countries to assist the ASEAN countries which have to carry the burden of refugees and displaced persons by accepting the latter for resettlement and to keep up financial assistance to them for humanitarian reasons.

The Socio-Economic Matters Committee discussed many important issues. The most important one was being the first legal project relating to narcotic and drug abuse, the drug addict rehabilitation, and the economic cooperation among the ASEAN members. On the joint legal project on narcotics, drug abuse, and drug addict rehabilitation, the committee called for the law with effective enforcement to deal with drug trafficking and drug abuse. The committee also recommends public education on drug uses and the rehabilitation of drug addicts. With regard to the ASEAN economic cooperation, the committee reviewed the EEC protectionism which affects the exports of ASEAN. The committee, therefore, called for a dialogue on this subject with the EEC.

The Committee on the Organizational Matters discussed the establishment of the permanent secretary of AIPO and the establishment of ASEAN parliament. Following the proposal from Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand, each of it offer to be the site for the AIPO Secretariat, the committee resolved that the agreement should be reached by the governments of these three countries as to where the permanent secretariat should be. Pending the final decision, each country will take turns to act as a secretariat of AIPO.

On the establishment of the ASEAN parliament along the line of the European Parliament, the committee after a thorough consideration, concluded that the establishment of such an organization may entail many problems since the measures to provide equal justice to every member country have not been reached. However, the ASEAN parliament is important. Every country therefore is urged to study this matter carefully.

CSO: 4200/54

BRIEFS

SRV BUILDUP NEAR BORDER--Vietnam has recently reinforced its troops stationed along the western part of Kampuchea near the Thai border, Khmer resistance commander Chea Chhut said yesterday. Chea Chhut, whose resistance base is located in Nong Chan opposite Ta Phraya District of Prachin Buri, said that Vietnam had moved its 59th Division from Battambang Province early this month to the 75th Division opposite Ta Phraya and Aranyaprathet districts. He also said that the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin Government had ordered all military units near the Thai border to arrest all smugglers and confiscate their goods. He said that the Heng Samrin regime would use the smugglers to repair strategic roads No 59, 69, 5, and 9/11, which were damaged by floods during the last three months. Meanwhile, Thai authorities in the border areas said that Vietnamese forces were expected to launch a heavy offensive against the Kampuchean resistance forces during this coming dry season. [Text] [BK131029 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 13 Oct 84 p 3]

PREM EXERCISING; TWO IN-HOUSE DOCTORS--Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon spent about 10 minutes walking inside his Sisao Thevas residence this morning. Gen Prem left Phra Mongkutklao Hospital yesterday afternoon and received a rousing farewell by about 200 doctors, nurses and visitors. The Premier thanked the hospital staff and the public for their concern about his health. Doctors advised the Premier not to resume work immediately and not to spend more than an hour a day receiving visitors. They suggested that he refrain from exercise except for a short walk. Two doctors and two nurses were ordered to take care of the Premier at his residence. [Text] [BK131417 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 13 Oct 84 p 2]

CANADIAN ANTIPIRACY ASSISTANCE--Canada has decided to contribute about 2.6 million baht to finance the antipiracy program in the Gulf of Thailand, the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok said recently. The total amount given by Canada to the program since 1982 will be approximately 7.2 million baht. [Text] [BK101221 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1030 GMT 3 Oct 84]

VIETNAMESE REFUGEE DONATIONS--Representatives of Vietnamese refugees from the Dien Bien Phu era yesterday donated 1.1 million baht to the Internal Security Operations Command to be spent on Thai-Kampuchean border security. Supreme commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, who accepted the donation at a ceremony at the army meeting hall, told the donor representatives that the government would continue providing protection to refugees who obeyed the law and

contributed to the progress of the country. A Vietnamese representative said the refugees were grateful they had been allowed to live in Thailand for almost 400 years. Meanwhile, Gen Sup Aksaranukhro, deputy director of the Committee on Vietnamese Refugees, said more would be granted immigrant status. This was once banned to Vietnamese for security reasons. He said the government was also considering lowering the immigrant fee from 50,000 baht because many refugees were impoverished. [Text] [BK080500 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Sep 84 p 3]

PHICHIT 'CLOSE AIDE' REPORTEDLY TRANSFERRED--The commander of the Bangkok-based 11th Infantry Regiment has been appointed a staff officer at the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy. The transfer of Colonel Phadet Wana-phuti, a close aide to First Army Commander Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanits, surprised many senior army officers. A military source said the transfer appeared to go against a gentlemen's agreement among senior First Division Officers that Col Phadet would retain his post at the regiment. The source said even Lt-Gen Phichit and most of Col Phadet's Class Eight colleagues were caught unaware by the transfer announced last week--about three weeks behind the announcement of the annual reshuffle of middle-ranking officers. Appointed to succeed Col Phadet was Col Amphon Sawetserani, commander of the Auxiliary Regiment of the 9th Division based in Kanchanaburi, who was formerly deputy commander of the 11th Infantry Regiment and also a Class Eight graduate. [Text] [BK140354 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 84 p 1]

CSO: 4200/54

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

WORLD OPINION DEMANDS THAI WITHDRAWAL FROM LAOS

OW130847 Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 13 Oct 84

[VNA headline--"Bangkok's Tricks Can Deceive Nobody"]

[Text] Hanoi VNA 13 October--The continued occupation of the three Lao border hamlets O Mai, Kang and Savang by Thai troops has aroused great indignation among the world public.

The white book recently published by the Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, with convincing back-up documents and evidence, has brought out the Lao people's just claims, and laid bare the expansionist scheme of the Thai ultra-rightists against Laos.

Driven to the wall, the Bangkok authorities have resorted to cunning tricks, talking about "withdrawing" their troops. But in fact they continue their illegal occupation of the three Lao hamlets and are scheming to occupy other parts of Lao territory.

Contrary to Bangkok's claims, the situation in the three occupied hamlets is becoming more strained. Along with plundering Lao people and raping Lao women, the Thai ultra-rightists have taken people in the three Lao hamlets to Thailand and replaced them by Thai people with the aim of changing the character of the three hamlets.

They have maintained there the administrative machine, policy and military and para-military forces of Thailand.

They have replaced Lao currency by Thai currency, changed the study programs at Lao schools and even traffic signals.

They want to abolish the political, economic, cultural and social structure and system of the three occupied hamlets.

This is a crime of aggression, an intolerable violation of the sacred national rights of Laos, an insolent challenge to international law and the UN Charter.

The Bangkok authorities must get their troops from the three Lao hamlets now. [Sentence as received] They must stop at once [words indistinct] acts against the population in the three hamlets. This is a demand of justice and reason, and of world public opinion. Bangkok must bear full responsibility for their wrongdoings and consequences of their violations.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

CPV GREETS BOLIVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

OW121838 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA 12 October--The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee has extended its warm greetings to the Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of Bolivia.

The congratulatory message says:

"Your congress takes place in an atmosphere of tension resulting from the policy of intervention, aggression and arms race pursued by the Reagan Administration and other reactionary forces, which is seriously jeopardizing peace and stability in Latin America, the Caribbean and elsewhere in the world.

"We are deeply convinced that your congress will be an important contribution to strengthening the solidarity among the progressive forces, consolidating the process of democratization, overcoming prolonged economic difficulties left by the old regime, continuing to realize the anti-imperialist program aimed at defending national independence and sovereignty, thus contributing to the revolutionary movement of the peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress."

"On the occasion," the message says, "we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the communist party and other democratic and progressive forces and the people of Bolivia for their warm support for the Vietnamese people in their past fight against U.S. aggression for national salvation and national construction and defence at present."

It wishes the congress brilliant success and the friendship and solidarity between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Bolivia constant consolidation and development.

CSO: 4200/58

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

CSSR PAPER CITED ON OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN PRK

OW140807 Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT 14 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA 14 October--Czechoslovakia condemns international reaction for its constant interference in the People's Republic of Kampuchea's internal affairs, says the Czechoslovak daily RUDE PRAVO on 10 October.

The paper particularly denounces the continued support for the Pol Pot remnants and the use of the UN forum to prevent the rebuilding of Kampuchea.

It highly appreciates the peace policy pursued by the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam aimed at bringing about peace and stability in Southeast Asia and establishing relations of good neighbourhood, equality and cooperation with other countries.

Exalting the Czechoslovak-Kampuchean relationship, the paper notes that it has actually begun to flourish since 7 January 1979 when the Kampuchean people overthrew the Pol Pot regime, established the PRK and opted for the path of freedom, independence and socialism.

Czechoslovakia, the paper further notes, was among the first countries to recognize the PRK and offer her comprehensive assistance in its national revival. The exchange of visits by high level delegations of the two countries in February and November 1980 has strongly enhanced this friendly relationship and fraternal cooperation, the paper adds. It notes that many agreements on economic, trade, scientific, technical, medical and cultural cooperation have been signed by the two countries.

CSO: 4200/58

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

AAPSO COMMITTEE VISITS USSR--Hanoi VNA 11 October--A delegation of the Vietnam AAPSO Committee led by Lt Gen Hoang Minh Thao, director of the military institute and vice president of the committee, recently made a visit to the Soviet Union. While there, the delegation attended the 5th Congress of the Soviet AAPSO Committee held in Tbilisi, capital of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic from 27-29 September. It had working sessions with officials of the host committee on the enhancement of bilateral cooperation, and called at the office of the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the Soviet Peace Fund Committee, the Soviet War Veterans Committee and many other social establishments in the USSR. The Vietnamese guests also visited the Frunze Military Institute, the "Supreme Soviet" Military College and a number of industrial and agricultural establishments and cultural projects in Moscow, Tbilisi and Leningrad.

FRENCH SOCIALIST DELEGATION DEPARTS--Hanoi VNA 13 October--MP Georges Sarre, national secretary of the French Socialist Party (FSP) and his party left here Thursday, concluding a 2-week long visit to Vietnam. While here, the French guests were received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. They also had cordial talks with President of the Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples Hoang Minh Giam; President of the Vietnam-France Friendship Association Nguyen Van Hieu, Assistant Foreign Minister Vo Van Sung, and representatives of various public offices and organizations. They visited the late President Ho Chi Minh's home and office here, and a number of schools, hospitals, factories and cooperatives in Hanoi, Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City. MP Georges Sarre and other French guests expressed their joy at seeing with their own eyes the Vietnamese people's efforts in overcoming the consequences of war. This visit, they said, has helped them understand more about the new development of the Vietnamese people's national construction and defence. They also pledged to do their best to contribute to strengthening the friendship and cooperation between France and Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

PHNOM PENH ANNIVERSARY MARKED--Hanoi VNA 13 October--A get-together was held in Ho Chi Minh City on 12 October by the municipal branch of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association in honour of the 550th founding anniversary of Phnom Penh, capital of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Present were Pham Van Ba and Le Quynh Van, respectively chairman and vice-chairman of the sponsor organization and other officials. Kampuchean Consul-General in Ho Chi Minh City Hap

Bounse attended the get-together. Prof Phan Gia Ben, deputy-director of the Ho Chi Minh City Institute of Social Sciences, highlighted the process of development of the Kampuchean City. Through their struggle against different foreign invaders, he said, the Kampuchean people in general and the Phnom Penh people in particular have always strengthened their militant solidarity with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Laos to fight against common enemies for national construction and defence of their respective countries. [Text]
[Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 13 Oct OW]

PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT CONGRATULATED--Hanoi VNA 13 October--President of the State Council Truong Chinh has sent his warm congratulations to Ardito Barletta on his taking office as the president of the Republic of Panama. President Chinh said in his message: "We would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm the Vietnamese people's and government's solidarity with and absolute support for Panama's just struggle to regain its sovereignty over the canal and to build itself into a prosperous country. "May the friendly relations between the Vietnamese and Panamanian peoples be further consolidated and developed." [Text]
[Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 13 Oct 84]

CPV GREETES SWISS LABOR PARTY--Hanoi VNA 14 October--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam has sent its warmest greetings to the Central Committee of the Swiss Labour Party (SLP) on the 40th anniversary of the SLP. The message says that over the past 40 years the SLP has always been in the van of the struggle of the working class and other working people in Switzerland against fascism, imperialism and monopoly capital, for the people's welfare, democracy, peace and social progress, thus contributing to the enhancement of its influence and prestige as well as to the common struggle of the world revolutionary forces. The message expresses the CPV's sincere gratitude to the SLP, the working class and all the progressive people of Switzerland for their heartfelt support for the Vietnamese people's struggle for freedom and democracy in the past as well as in their present endeavours in socialist construction and national defence. The message wishes for new successes of the SLP's revolutionary struggle and for constant consolidation and development of the solidarity and friendship between the two parties and peoples. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 14 Oct 84 OW]

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION DAY MARKED--Hanoi VNA 13 October--A ceremony was held here today to celebrate the International Standardization Day (14 October) by the State Commission for Science and Technology and the General Department for Standardization of product quality. Representatives of the office of the Council of Ministers, many ministries and scientific and technical institutions of the Diplomatic Corps and international organizations in Hanoi were present at the function. Standardization, measurement and quality control of products have seen a continual development since Vietnam joined the International Standardization Convention of the Council for Economic Mutual Assistance. So far more than 3,800 national standards and nearly 2,000 branch or local standards have been set up. The national standards concern the engineering, mining electricity, chemistry and building materials industries, and 300 standards concern agricultural and food products. Nearly 126,000 instruments of measurement are subjected to regular control. Twenty-nine products have been awarded the state level quality mark. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

LIBYAN ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT--Hanoi VNA 14 October--An exhibition on the Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriya of Libya, the first of its kind in Vietnam, was opened here this morning to mark the anniversary of the withdrawal of the Italian fascists from Libya (7 October). The exhibition, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, was attended by Nong Quoc Chan, vice minister of culture; Vo Van Sung, assistant to the foreign minister; Trinh Ngoc Thai, secretary general of the Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples; and Nghiem Chuong Chau, vice chairwoman of the Hanoi People's Committee. Ali Ahmad Al Bakush, secretary of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriya of Libya in Vietnam, was present. On show are nearly 100 photos and paintings on the beautiful land of Libya and the achievements recorded by the Libyan people over the past 15 years under the leadership of Colonel Mu'ammara al-Qadhafi. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 14 Oct 84 OW]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM MONGOLIA--Hanoi VNA 16 October--The delegation of the Vietnam-Mongolia Friendship Association led by Nguyen Quang Xa, president of the association, returned here on 11 October, concluding its visit to Mongolia. During its stay, the delegation was cordially received by Ts Namsrai, Political Bureau member and secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia Central Committee, and J. Jamian, member of the party Central Committee and president of the Mongolia-Vietnam Friendship Association. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 16 Oct 84 OW]

CUBAN DELEGATION'S RECENT VISIT--Hanoi VNA 16 October--a delegation of the Committee for Defense of the Revolution of the Republic of Cuba visited Vietnam recently at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. It was led by Maria Teresa Malmierca, deputy national coordinator of the committee. During its stay, the delegation was cordially received by Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; Xuan Thuy, member of the Presidium and Nguyen Van Tien, member of the Presidium and secretary general of the VFF Central Committee. Before its departure, the delegation was also cordially received by Le Quang Dao, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. Ms Cecilia Clara, charge d'affaires a.i. of the Republic of Cuba, was present at those receptions. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1554 GMT 16 Oct 84 OW]

CSO: 4200/69

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

REVIEW MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi VNA 11 October--TO QUOC (Fatherland), review of the Vietnam Socialist Party, held a get-together here today in celebration of its 30th anniversary. The review first appeared under the name of TIEN LEN (Forward) shortly after the foundation of the Vietnam Socialist Party in July 1946. Its major achievement over the past 30 years is to have motivated the Vietnamese intelligentsia to advance from patriotism to socialism. Among the participants in the get-together were Hong Ha, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Editor-in-Chief of the daily Nhan Dan, and vice president of the Vietnam Journalists Association (VJA); Nguyen Van Tien, general secretary of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; and Dao Tung, director general of Vietnam News Agency, and vice president and secretary general of the VJA. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0852 GMT 12 Oct 84 OW]

AWARD TO SCIENCE BIWEEKLY--Hanoi VNA 15 October--The fortnightly SCIENCE AND LIFE held a ceremony here today to mark its 25th anniversary and receive the Labour Order, First Class, awarded by the State Council. The conferment of distinction was performed by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap. On this occasion Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong sent a letter to the fortnightly commending it for its contributions to the application of scientific and technical advances in Vietnam over the past 25 years. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1537 GMT 15 Oct 84 OW]

CSO: 4200/69

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

HA BAC PROVINCE PROMOTES DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Sep 84 p 2

[Article by Truong The Cuu, Chairman of the People's Committee of Ha Bac Province: "Ha Bac Continues to Promote District Development and Stengthen the District Level"]

[Text] Between 1976 and 1978 Ha Bac concentrated its forces on carrying out basic studies of the land. An agriculture-forestry economic plan for the period between 1978 and 2000 was drafted and was approved by the Council of Ministers. Along with guiding the drafting of economic agricultural-forestry plans, the province has also positively guided the drafting of specialized economic plans for such sectors as the water conservancy, communications, electricity, and construction materials sectors to serve as bases on which the districts can draft over-all plans. All 16 districts and cities have completed the drafting of over-all plans and the plans of 7 districts have been approved by the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee and by the Provincial People's Committee.

For nearly 2 years now the province has guided the districts and cities in reviewing and supplementing their over-all plans. Four districts and cities have reviewed their plans, which have been approved by the province. Many districts have concretized their plans by dividing them into periods covering 1976-1980, 1981-1985, and 1986-1990, while at the same time, on the basis of the local capabilities, clearly delineating the goals of annual plans and measues for drafting final plans on the basis of the draft plans. A number of districts have drafted plans for sectors and bases. In the course of nearly 7 years of implementing plans many districts have begun to develop the potentialities of labor, land, and the sectors and trades in order to develop the economy. During the 1978-1980 3-year period the province launched seven campaigns which concentrated on building water conservancy projects and soil improvement. The results were the excavation of 23.6 million cubic meters of earth, the production of 6.4 million tons of fertilizer (in manure equivalent), an average of 47 cubic meters of earth and 11.6 tons of fertilizer per worker. Since 1981, every year the districts have launched "concentration on water conservancy and soil improvement month" campaigns. The province has constructed 64 electricity-powered pumping stations with a total designed capacity of 66,000 kilowatts, puchased more than 1,000 diesel-powered pumps, and constructed 6,700 hectares of lakes and ponds and the Song Cau, Ke Son, Bac Duong, Gia Thuan, and Nam Yen Dung irrigation systems, thus ensuring the irrigation and drainage of 80 percent of the rice area and the irrigation of 27 percent of the subsidiary food crop area.

Thanks to the drafting of agricultural-forestry plans and sector plans, and the implementation of the economic policies promulgated by the Party and state, especially the policy of contracting out of output to agricultural workers, since 1978 the province's agricultural production has undergone new development in cultivation, animal husbandry, and export crops. Specialized cultivation areas were created according to plan. Area, yield, total output, and the amounts of grain, food products, agricultural products, and export forestry products contributed to the state have increased every year and have surpassed the average levels of the 1976-1980 state plan.

Five districts in the main rice-growing area have attained yields of more than five tons per hectare. Of those districts, Tien Son attained more than six tons and Thuan Thanh and Gia Luong attained nearly six tons per hectare. In six districts the average per-capital grain production was between 350 and more than 400 kilograms, and Tan Yen, a model district, attained 420 kilograms. Five districts planted about 1,000 hectares of soybeans. They were headed by Luc Ngan District, which planted 2,200 hectares. The movement to grow summer soybeans has steadily expanded. The province as a whole planted 5,500 hectares. Lang Giang district has the largest summer soybean area (1,500 hectares). Every year Hiep Hoa, Tan Yen, and Viet Yen districts grow more than 1,000 hectares of peanuts and 500 hectares of tobacco. Every year Tan Yen, Gia Luong, and Tien Son purchase for the state more than 10,000 grain tons, and more than 800 tons of pork.

As regards forestry, although plan implementation results are not yet great, every year tens of thousands of cubic meters of lumber and firewood and millions of bamboo. Only because they planted trees many years ago do many districts have lumber with which to achieve the goal of building tile-roofed houses for the people, have wood to build material-technical bases and public welfare projects of the districts, villages, and cooperatives, and have firewood of provide the people with cooking fuel. Every year afforestation and the zoning of forestry nursery areas are carried out according to state plans. The province has assigned to cooperatives and cooperative members 34,000 hectares of forests and forest land. Many districts have good models with regard to forestry and afforestation.

Although industry and handicrafts are still small and are not yet sufficiently strong to serve the development of agricultural and forestry production, and many production sectors do not yet have plans, in recent years production has been reorganized. In general, production has been stabilized and the total value of industrial output has increased by an average of four to five percent a year. Many districts have positively developed small industry and handicrafts and gradually formed agricultural-industrial structures in the sphere of the district. Nearly all of the agricultural cooperatives in the districts of Tien Son, Thuan Thanh, and Gia Luong have set up small industry and handicraft trades. Exemplary are the Tuong Giang and Tan Hong cooperatives in Tien Son District, where those trades account for about 50 percent of the labor force and the incomes of the sectors and trades. The value of industrial-handicrafts output accounts for 33.2 percent of the total in Tien Son District and for 21.5 percent in Thuan Thanh. On the average, it accounts for 16 percent in each district. Tan Yen, a key district which had never had handicraft trades, has now begun to build a number of district-level industrial

production bases, principally by means of the district's capital and labor. Those bases are producing profitably.

The decentralization of all aspects of management to the districts has been positively carried out. The province has decentralized to the districts the management of 286 units, including 216 state economic bases, 32 professional bases, and 38 cargo-handling and transportation units in the collective sector. The agricultural sector decentralized to the districts management of nearly all district-level state stations and farms. The districts set up state service bases to directly serve agriculture, such as veterinary stations, hog farms, and fish farms. The commercial sector decentralized to the districts its district-level bases. The districts set up combined buying-selling commercial corporations. A number of districts began to create materials and goods funds. In 1979 the province decentralized to 16 districts and cities the direct management of budgets and encouraged the districts to take the initiative in developing the sources of internal income. In 1984 the districts' budgetary income was four times greater than in 1979 and expenditures increased more than five-fold. Economic expenditures increased from 24.5 percent to 32 percent. In 1983 three districts balanced their budgets and had surpluses. Tan Yen, a key district, increased its budgetary income 10-fold (from 3 million dong in 1979 to 31 million dong in 1983). The district took the initiative in developing the sources of income from production and assigned income and expenditure norms to the sectors and villages. Seventeen of 22 villages have balanced their budgets.

By the end of 1983 the province had decentralized to the districts and cities direct management of 21,561 cadres, workers, and civil servants, including 1,939 in the state sector. The sectors added to the districts and cities 657 cadres, including 157 college-level cadres and 450 high school-level cadres. The total number of college-level cadres managed by the districts is 1,953, an average of 122 per district. Tien Son District has the most college-level cadres: 169. The cadres who are members of district and city party committees and have college or high school-level educations account for 36.4 percent of the total, and 17.7 percent of them have college-level educations. Twenty-two percent of the district party committee secretaries and district chairmen have college-level educations and 122 of the bureau and section heads and deputy heads in the districts and cities have college-level educations. In Tan Yen, a key district, of the bureau and section heads and deputy heads, more than 30 percent have college-level educations, 20 percent have high school-level educations, and 41 percent have completed general high schools.

All of the districts and cities have drafted basic plans regarding the military work in the districts, constructed integrated defense lines, and organized combat readiness forces and forces to serve combat if war breaks out. The organization of militia and self-defense forces is tied in with the production units in the cooperatives, organs, and schools. Arrangements have been made for cadres who lead and guide production in peacetime to directly command combat in the event of war.

Guiding the construction of model districts and strengthening the district echelon are new tasks with regard to both contents and methods. If the model

districts are not well guided there can be no experience in providing over-all guidance. Realizing that, the district selected Tan Yen District as a trial district because it had been selected for the trial implementation of tasks since the late 1960s. The province's guidance thought is quite explicit: guiding trial implementation does not mean giving priority with regard to capital investment and material conditions but essentially means helping the districts delineate the correct path of advance and methods for actively exploiting the potential of the districts in order to carry out economic-social development and meet the legitimate requirements of the lives of the masses in the district. The province only provides materials and facilities which the districts are not capable of providing. At regular intervals it carries out preliminary and final recapitulations, gains experience regarding the methods and contents of district development, and disseminates those experiences for application in the districts. The initial successful experiences of the Tan Yen model district were a spirit of initiative and creativity at the district level in applying and concretizing the lines and policies of the central level in a manner appropriate to the conditions of the districts, and on that basis exploiting the capabilities and strengths in order to develop the districts. The experiences of the Tan Yen model district regarding the drafting and implementation of plans, the building of material-technical bases in the districts, industrial development, budgets and finance, and district grain and merchandise funds, the expansion of economic federations, the consolidation of Party bases and agricultural cooperatives, improving uniformity, the leadership of the district party committees, and the management role of the district governments, combining the economy with national defense, the leadership and guidance of the upper echelon, etc., have real value for application by the districts in the province.

In comparison to the requirements that were set forth, the development of districts and the strengthening of the district echelon are in many respects still slow and not yet good. The transformation of the districts and sectors in the province is not yet strong and uniform. Planning is still of poor quality and does not fully reflect the nature of all-round economic-social planning. The planning work has been transformed only slowly. When drafting over-all plans many districts and sectors separate them from the component plans. The district agricultural-industrial structure has taken form slowly. The decentralization of economic and budgetary management to the districts is not yet comprehensive and complete. The expansion of economic alliances between districts and sectors and among districts has been carried out slowly. The apparatus of some districts have been strengthened slowly and in many places the task of training cadres according to plan has not been carried out well.

In the 1984-1985 2-year period Ha Bac will concentrate on doing a good job of the following tasks: approving the over-all economic-social plans of the remaining districts; completing the drafting of over-all draft plans for distributing production forces in the province; changing planning in the spirit of the resolution of the Sixth Plenum of the Party Central Committee; reevaluating the decentralization of management to districts and continuing to promote the all-round, complete decentralization of management to the districts; strengthening and consolidating the state management apparatus at the district echelon; completing the formation of specialized corporations managed by the districts; implementing all contents of the Council of Ministers

resolution regarding district development and the strengthening of the district echelon in the Tan Yen trial district in order to gain experience in order to expand that task in the other districts, and promoting the development of strong district party organizations, accompanied by district development, the strengthening of the district echelon, and the consolidation of the basic level.

In order to create conditions for the province and districts to take the initiative in local economic construction and development and concentrate on district development and strengthening the district echelon, Ha Bac recommends that the state sectors coordinate closely and promptly guide and oversee the provincial and district echelons, as set forth by the resolution of the Sixth Plenum of the Party Central Committee, boldly decentralize to the province the central economic bases in the provinces which produce principally by means of local raw materials, and expand economic alliances between the central economic bases and the localities.

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CSO: 4209/8

AGRICULTURE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL STRESSES DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TRADES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Sep 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Develop Trades, Exploit Well the Potential of Land and Agricultural Labor"]

[Text] Labor, land, and trades are valuable capital which are possessed by all agricultural cooperatives and production collectives. The good use and development of those capabilities is both an objective and a means by which the collective production bases can advance to meeting the needs of foodstuffs for society, raw materials for the processing industry, agricultural products, and consumer goods to serve the lives of the people.

When they were still producing individually our country's peasants knew how to overcome the seasonal nature of agriculture and organize such handicraft trades as silk cocoon reeling, cotton spinning, textile weaving, bamboo weaving, the production of earthenware items and agricultural implements, etc., in order to increase incomes. Many localities with traditional handicraft trades and famous products, such as Ha Dong silk, Nga Son mats, Bat Trang bricks, etc., have handicraft workers with high technical levels.

When the countryside was cooperativized, cooperatives and agricultural collectives were organized, had correct production directives, and began to exploit potential more effectively. The mechanism of contracting out final output to groups and individual workers, along with the improvement of management, created conditions for the production bases to exploit the capabilities of labor and land, promote the intensive cultivation of food crops, and develop animal husbandry and the trades in the rural areas. Many cooperatives and production collectives restored and developed a number of trades, such as sericulture, cocoon reeling, textile weaving, rush growing and mat weaving, rattan and bamboo growing, the weaving of export goods, and the trades which serve agriculture and the lives of the local people. In the southern provinces, although the production relations have only recently been established in the rural areas, the importance of trades has become increasingly clear. Animal feed processing, rice milling, sugar refining, the production of construction materials and hand tools, etc., contributed actively to developing the cultivation and animal husbandry and created conditions for developing agriculture along the lines of intensive cultivation, specialized cultivation, and comprehensiveness. The appearance of a new division of labor changed the quality of the labor structure. The peasants had additional jobs

and the collective economy had additional income. Places which did a good job of developing the carpentry, blacksmithing, lathe, and pipefitting trades, and which produced their own ordinary hand tools, contributed to increasing labor productivity. Many districts have plans and guidelines for developing the handicraft and small industry trades in the sphere of the district, but the progress that has been made in expanding production and developing trades has not been great or uniform, especially in areas with raw materials. There are still a considerable number of cooperatives and production collectives which are concerned only with promoting grain production, have not yet developed the sectors and trades, or have not yet developed them in a manner corresponding to actual capabilities. Although cultivation has increased rapidly, animal husbandry and sectors and trades have increased slowly or not at all. A study carried out in 1,397 cooperatives showed that the ratio of the total cooperative income provided by the collective animal husbandry sector declined from 11.6 percent in 1980 to 9.32 percent in 1981 and 1982, while the ratio attributable to the sectors and trades declined from 11.9 percent to 7.57 percent.

Our country lies within the tropical zone and thanks to scientific-technical advances, especially with regard to crop varieties, can produce three or four crops a year and widely apply the interplanting and catch crop formulas, although the seasonal nature of agriculture continues to exist. Agricultural labor is at times very urgent and at times idle. Under the conditions of the level of agricultural mechanization still being low and most agricultural labor still being manual, the number of people engaged in the growing of grain still accounts for a high percentage. The direction of struggle is to use well and fully redundant labor and the land, while at the same time increasing labor productivity, gradually and rationally reducing the number of workers growing rice, and increase the number of workers growing industrial crops, in order to have agricultural products for export and raw materials for processing, animal husbandry, and the sectors and trades.

Speaking at the Conference on Agricultural Transformation in the Nam Bo Provinces, General Secretary Le Duan stressed that it is necessary pay all-out attention to the total number of work days and endeavor to attain the level of 300 work days a year, of which 100 are set aside for producing export goods. It is necessary to practice intensive cultivation, increase the number of growing seasons, and increase the land use rate, while at the same time developing animal husbandry, expanding the sectors and trades, and developing both the collective economy and the family economy. On a national scale, capabilities to comprehensively develop agriculture and the small industry and handicrafts sectors in the agricultural cooperatives and production collectives are still very great. Many cooperatives and production collectives have attained that struggle goal and there are many capabilities for attaining it universally.

On the basis of the requirements of the economic-social development plans labor, land, raw materials sources, and marketing capabilities, each base and locality must determine correct guidelines for organizing production by the sectors and trades, such as the processing of the various kinds of agricultural, forestry, and maritime products, expanding the sectors and trades

producing and repairing agricultural implements and machinery in rural areas, and producing construction materials, artistic goods, export goods, and consumer goods serving daily life; expanding the sectors and trades; and setting up rural transportation and communications organizations.

In determining guidelines for organizing the production of the small industry and handicrafts sectors and trades it is necessary to firmly grasp the requirements practically serving agriculture and the principal production sectors, fully utilizing the potential of land and all types of labor in order to process the byproduct and waste products of cultivation, and increase the value of agricultural products. Other requirements are using local raw materials to produce goods which serve consumption and export, participating in the circulation-distribution process, furthering the process of building material-technical bases, building a new countryside, contributing to consolidating and strengthening the cooperatives and production collectives, and building districts with agricultural-industrial or forestry-agricultural-industrial structures.

In organizing the production of small industry and handicraft sectors and trades, it is necessary to, on the basis of the nature of the work of each sector and trade, determine the form and scale of production, whether federations or joint operations, concentrated or dispersed, deciding which are to be managed by the collective economy and which are to be assigned to the cooperative family members, and which sectors and trades must be a joint undertaking of the collective and the cooperative members, among cooperative members, among the production bases, or by the people and the state, in order to exploit as rapidly and effectively as possible the existing capabilities of each base and in the sphere of the district.

The organization of sectors and trades in the cooperatives and production collectives must be tied in with the local raw materials, production must be tied in with processing, and it must be ensured that all sources of labor are used at all times, with technology that is not too complicated and does not require much state capital and investment. It is necessary to avoid the situation of organizing sectors and trades in a manner that does not bring about real results or which adversely affects the development of agriculture, especially during urgent seasonal periods, and creates negativism in circulation and distribution.

In organizing sectors and trades it is necessary to make preparations and have complete plans which include production, the supplying of raw materials and technical materials, the marketing of products, and the organization and distribution of labor. It is necessary to implement economic accounting and carry out the contracting out of output to groups and workers. Production plans must be tied in with distribution plans in order to ensure distribution in cooperatives which is uniform but adequately encourages the self-interest of the workers in the sectors and trades in order to bring about high incomes for the collective economy.

Strongly developing the sectors and trades is both a requirement of the national economic-social development plans and a requirement of all bases, in order to create harmonious development among the production sectors in the

cooperatives and production collectives and increase the supply of local capital and materials for all-round agricultural development. The echelons and sectors, especially at the district level, are responsible for guiding and assisting the basic level, eliminating all restraints of the bureaucratic, supply-as-needed management mechanism, and having policies for stimulating production and creating stable markets. With regard to the improvement of economic management, in the immediate future it is necessary to strongly develop the collective mastership right of the working people, develop the spirit of initiative and creativity on the part of the basic level, and open the way for the basic level to exploit all potentialities regarding labor, land, and trades in order to produce social wealth, develop production, and do business with high productivity, good quality, and high economic effectiveness.

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CS0: 4209/8

AGRICULTURE

NAM DONG NEW ECONOMIC ZONE DEVELOPED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Sep 84 p 2

[Article by Anh Trang: "In the Nam Dong New Economic Zone"]

[Text] Phu Loc District, in the southern part of Binh Tri Thien Province, has a natural area of nearly 142,000 hectares, more than 130,000 workers, and an average population density of 95 people per square km. In zones 1 and 2 along Route 1 there are 190 people per square km. Zone 3, situated on a narrow strip of land between the sea and the Cau Hai marsh has an average of 650 people. Zone 4, in the vast hills-and-mountains area, has great potential but only nine people per square km. After the south was liberated there were many tasks which had to be carried out at the same time, but Phu Loc District gave priority to the task of spreading out population and redistributing labor and population in the sphere of the district.

Applying the slogan "do the easy first and the difficult later," Phu Loc has concentrated on leading and guiding wasteland clearing and developing the Nam Dong new economic-fixed cultivation and habitation zone, which is an old fertile alluvial area totalling 20,000 hectares, of which 6,363 have agricultural potential and 13,450 are forestry land. In addition to encouraging the people in six villages of the Co Tu ethnic minority group to adopt fixed cultivation and habitation, the district sent people from coastal lowland areas in the district and received people from Hue and Huong Phu District who came to develop the new economic area. Phu Loc adopted the policy of tying in the new economic and fixed cultivation and habitation work with the collective production movement in order to mobilize the strength of the new production relations and create production means, especially land, in order to meet local grain needs and on that basis advance to exploiting the strengths regarding industrial crops, forestry, and the raising of water buffaloes and cattle. The Nam Dong new economic and fixed cultivation-fixed habitation zone began with a movement to clear wasteland, build water conservancy projects, and create wet-rice fields. The people of the new economic zone and the Co Tu people voluntarily participate in collective production in 32 production units, 17 collectives, and 2 cooperatives. As of 1983 the new economic and fixed cultivation-habitation zone cultivated nearly 3,000 hectares of staple crops, including rice, corn, potatoes, and manioc, including 286 hectares of wet rice, which were planted in new rice varieties and provided an average yield of 44 quintals per hectare. Many production collectives and units attained yields of more than five tons per hectare. In 1983 grain output in terms of paddy

amounted to 8,813 tons, an average of 540 kg per person and nearly double the average grain levels of the district and province. In 1980 the new economic-fixed cultivation and habitation zone essentially resolved the grain problem and the study and trial growing of a number of industrial crops in new areas brought about encouraging economic results. The district party committee adopted the policy of advancing in phases to exploiting the strengths regarding industrial and export crops. By the end of 1983 that new zone accounted for 11.5 percent of the population, 10 percent of the sugarcane, 22.4 percent of the tobacco, and 32 percent of the peanut area in the district. In addition to the tea grown by the families, a tea state farm has just been set up and is initially growing 35 hectares. The production of handcrafted rattan and rush items has only recently been developed but accounts for 25 percent of the district's rattan and rush production. In future years the Nam Dong new economic-fixed habitation and cultivation zone will expand the areas of the four industrial crops mentioned above and become the district's main industrial crop growing area.

In order to reduce the people's difficulties and create conditions for exploiting the potential of the new economic zone, the district party committee guided the application of the slogan "The state and the people work together" in building material-technical bases to serve production and life. Therefore, the villages now have schools, public health stations, and stores. There have been constructed in the zone 12 medium and small water conservancy projects which provide controllable irrigation for nearly all of the wet rice area. There were rather complicated tunneling, river damming, water diversion, and stream damming projects, but with realization that "to have water is to have paddies, industrial crops, and export crops" the strength of the entire district has been concentrated on building water conservancy projects according to plan. The villages and cities have competed in building roads connecting villages and hamlets. Thanks to the positive expansion of the road network, travel in the Nam Dong new economic zone is more convenient than in the other new economic zones in the province. In the past, more than 6,000 people belonging to the Co Tu ethnic group practiced nomadic cultivation and habitation in the high mountain ranges with backward cultivation modes, and every year cut down thousands of hectares of forests to make slash-burn fields, but they were still hungry and miserable and lacked food and clothing. Today, the district party committee and the party chapters are actively encouraging the people to come down from the mountains and adopt fixed cultivation and habitation. The exemplary party members were the first to bring their families down. In addition to the assistance of Vietnamese who came to develop new economic zones, the district party committee sent to each village a work team to guide the Co Tu people in building new-style houses, creating orchards, and clearing wasteland and building water conservancy projects in order to create wet rice fields.

The Co Tu people have voluntarily abandoned the old, backward customs, obeyed the monogamy law, and ended the "passing on" of wives. All people do not have to "make offerings" but are brought to village aid stations or district hospitals for treatment. All villages have a general school, a nursery school, a day care center, a volleyball team, and a cultural team. The people view one movie a month. In the middle of the zone there is a general middle school reserved for children of the Co Tu ethnic group. All fixed cultivation and

habitation villages have recently made Level I education available for all the people. Now, when one visits the Nam Dong new economic zone and observes the way people make a living or meet passers-by, it is difficult to distinguish between the Co Tu and the Vietnamese. Under the leadership of the Party, the Co Tu people are advancing directly from a matriarchy system to socialism.

The Nam Dong valley has been transformed from a desolate mountainous area into four new economic villages, with 2,096 families and a total of 10,929 people including 3,461 workers, and six fixed cultivation and habitation villages of the Co Tu ethnic groups with more than 6,000 people. The lives of the people in the Nam Dong new economic-fixed cultivation and habitation zone are not only much better off than the other new economic zones in the province but also than in their old areas. For several years now, in addition to fulfilling a grain obligation to the state of about 800 tons a year, every day several truckloads of potatoes, manioc, corn, bananas, etc., leave for La Son and Hue. Nearly all of the families have orchards, 30 percent of the families have fish ponds, and 40 percent have sturdy, tile-roofed houses. In the zone as a whole there are 30 local general schools and a general middle school which are attended by nearly 4,000 students. In the center of the zone there has taken form a rather complete economic-technical complex consisting of the large Nam Dong market, state retail stores, a technical materials station, a post office, a bank, a machinery enterprise, a tractor team, a polyclinic, and a general middle school. Recently the cadres, party members, and people of Nam Dong happily accepted a certificate of commendation from the Council of Ministers for accomplishments in developing the new economic-fixed cultivation and habitation zone.

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CS0: 4209/8

AGRICULTURE

ETHNIC MINORITIES SETTLED IN SON LA PROVINCE

OW122051 Hanoi VNA in English 1535 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA 12 October--Four thousand four hundred and fifty-eight families of ethnic minorities comprising more than 30,747 persons in the mountain province of Son La, more than 200 km northwest of Hanoi, have settled for sedentary farming. They belong to the H'mong, Dzao, Kh'mu, Xingmun, Thai and Muong ethnic groups.

More than 3,000 settlers have been admitted to the local state cultivation or afforestation farms.

After giving up their migratory habit and dribbling [as received] farming practice, the settlers have reclaimed 2,106 hectares for food crop cultivation, 735 hectares for tea planting and 2,102 hectares for forest planting. Four hundred and ninety-four hectares of grass land have been turned into pastures which helped raise the number of buffaloes in Son La to 5,000 head.

They have also built roads, small water reservoirs and irrigation canals. The Dzao at Suoi Lin cooperative in Moc Chau District have even built a 24-kw hydro-electric power station for their husking mill and power house. In the past 5 years the people contributed to the state, 3,500 tons of surplus food and 1,700 tons of chickens, meat and other foodstuffs and some 10 tons of pharmaceutical materials. Sanitation facilities, infirmaries, and kindergartens have been built in all the new dwelling places of the former nomads.

CSO: 4200/58

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DELTA DISTRICT EXPORTS AGRICULTURAL--Hanoi VNA 12 October--Yen District in Ha Ninh Province, south of Hanoi, in the years from 1981 to 1983 increased its annual food production by 38 percent over the average in previous years. Its export value rose by 7 times in the same period, amounting to 20 million dong (Vietnamese currency). The figure is expected to rise to 45-60 million dong in 1985. The district has determined five main export lines, namely ground-nut, potato, garlic, carrot, capsicum and natural silk. Industrial zoning has been oriented toward serving agricultural production and processing produce for export. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

AN GIANG PRODUCTION COLLECTIVES--Since early this year, An Giang Province has set up 286 production collectives, bringing the total number of these establishments to 1,660. In general, some 71,200 hectares of 30.4 percent of cultivated land in the province have been collectivized. During the same period, An Giang has also established 58 credit cooperatives. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 3 Loc 84 BK]

DONG NAI GRAIN PROCUREMENT--As of 30 September, Dong Nai Province had collected 92,221 metric tons of grain, thus exceeding the planned target for 1984 by 2,221 metric tons. More than 70 percent of this volume of grain are subsidiary crops converted to paddy equivalent. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4209/14

LIGHT INDUSTRY

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY HONEY EXPORTS--Hanoi VNA 13 October--The Ho Chi Minh City Bee-Keeping Company has exported 16.5 tons of honey. The company plans to export 20 tons of honey this year and this is also the first time the city exports this item. Over the past few years, the company has supplied the city with honey and royal jelly for the production of liquor, tonic and candies for home consumption. Thanks to this export, the company has imported a number of necessary materials for developing apiculture. [text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

FIRST NATIONAL TEXTILE WORKSHOP--Hanoi VNA 13 October--A week-long national textile workshop, the first one of its kind in Vietnam, was held in Ho Chi Minh City recently by the Union of Textile Mills under the Ministry of Light Industry. It was attended by more than 100 engineers and technicians of the textile industry and representatives of the State Planning Commission, the Communist Party Central Committee's Industry Department, the Hanoi Polytechnic, the Institute of Weaving Research, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and the provinces of Quang Nam-Da Nang and Ha Nam Ninh. Fifty-six reports were delivered at the workshop dealing with the orientation and concrete measures for developing the production of fibres and fabrics in the period 1986-90 in the light of the resolution of the recent sixth plenum of the party Central Committee. The participants discussed problems relating to the textile industry such as raw materials and products, equipment and spare parts, a planned investment in procuring equipment, management and the training of cadres and technical workers. They particularly dealt with the development and use of the sources of indigenous fibres and silk, the application of technical advances of the world textile industry, and the technical investment in export textile products. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

CSO: 4200/58

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

DONG NAI RADIO NETWORK--The Dong Nai Provincial Radio Broadcasting Service has helped various grassroots units build 90 wired radio stations at city ward and village levels. Wired radio stations have been set up in more than 60 percent of the villages in the province. Two shortwave radio broadcasting stations have also been set up in Xian Loc District and Bien Hoa City. [Summary]
[Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 7 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4209/14

LABOR

50,000 LABORERS TO BE REDISTRIBUTED IN 1984

BK091501 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Oct 84

[Text] The Council of Ministers has decided to entrust the labor service and other sectors and localities with the task of mobilizing an additional 50,000 laborers in 1984. This decision was made at the request of various sectors and localities and in view of the 1984 plan for labor and population redistribution being fulfilled ahead of schedule and of the great and urgent demands of labor and population redistribution work.

By fulfilling the modified 1984 plan for the redistribution of 180,000 laborers, the entire country will be able to fulfill in 4 years the labor redistribution plan for 5 years, from 1981 to 1985. According to the Labor and Population Redistribution Department of the Ministry of Labor, over the past 9 months the entire country has mobilized nearly 255,000 people, including 117,000 laborers, to build new economic zones and to meet a number of other demands of the national economy, thus fulfilling 90 percent of the annual plan in terms of laborers and-almost 80 percent in terms of population.

The following 13 provinces and cities have overfulfilled the 1984 labor redistribution plan: Kien Giang, Dac Lac, Lam Dong, An Giang, Gia Lai-Cong Tum, Thanh Hoa, Dong Thap, Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh, Dong Nai, Thai Binh, Ha Tuyen, and Haiphong. Those localities fulfilling or substantially overfulfilling their plans owed their success mainly to their efforts in actively redistributing labor within their localities, in satisfactorily combining on-the-spot redistribution with the sending of laborers to other provinces and districts, and in creatively applying the slogans that the state and the people work together, that the people work and the state assists, and so forth.

The movement for sisterhood and economic integration between provinces, districts, and villages has steadily developed with practical and diversified purposes. This has also positively contributed to the new progress in labor and population redistribution work.

CSO: 4209/14

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

SOVIET SPORTS TEAM--Hanoi VNA 12 October--On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Hanoi's liberation, an 11 member team of the "Burevestnik" Sport Association has arrived for a visit and friendly matches. The team consists of eight women volleyball players, two women table-tennis players and a chess player. The team played its first games here on [?] and 9 October. Soviet volleyballers beat the Hanoi youth team and selected team by the same score of three-zero. The Soviet ping pongists, however, lost by the same score to the Hanoi women's team and the Vietnam Army women's team. On 8 October, Soviet chess player Kruppa played simultaneously with eight Hanoi players. He beat six, lost to one and tied with another. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 12 Oct 84 OW]

TRADE COOPERATION WITH VIENTIANE--Hanoi VNA 13 October--A delegation of the Industry and Trade Services of Ho Chi Minh City led by Dao Anh Vu, director of the city's Industry Service, paid a 2-week visit to Vientiane ending 11 October. While in Vientiane, the delegation had working sessions with leaders of the Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry Service of Vientiane. The two sides discussed measures to promote cooperation between the two cities and signed minutes of the meeting on economic cooperation and goods exchange for 1985. Under these minutes, Ho Chi Minh City will supply a large quantity of commodities to Vientiane in the last 2 months of this year. The Vietnamese guests were received on separate occasions by Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and of the Vientiane Party Committee, and Khambou Sounisai, member of the LPRP CC and president of the Vientiane Administrative Committee. They toured several economic and cultural establishments in the Lao capital. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 13 Oct 84 OW]

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